

Request for Proposal 2023-13 Third-Party Monitoring (TPM) in Sri Lanka

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About GCERF

GCERF is the global fund for preventing violent extremism. It supports local, community-level initiatives to strengthen resilience against violent extremist agendas. As a public-private partnership operating at the nexus of security and development, GCERF works in partnership and consultation with governments, civil society, and the private sector in beneficiary countries to support national strategies to address the local drivers of violent extremism. GCERF provides support to community-level initiatives that: seek to address locally specific drivers of radicalization; provide tangible, positive alternatives to what violent extremist groups may offer; counter violent extremist narratives and messaging and build the capacity of governments and civil society to counter violent extremism.

Background

GCERF's investment in Sri Lanka seeks to strengthen communal social cohesion, fostering sense of purpose among vulnerable youth and promoting equal access to opportunities. Since the commencement of the country program in 2021, 8800 people have been directly reached with interventions, aimed at achieving these outcomes.

The country financing mechanism is via an accelerated funding panel that comprises of a representation of government stakeholders and donors. Through this panel, a national grantee was selected, working with sub-grantees (currently numbered at 13) based in the program target districts, namely; Kurunegala, Kandy, Kaluthara, Batticaloa and Ampara.

Through this consortium, the program seeks to achieve the following objectives;

1. Enhanced capacity of youth to engage and advocate to local level government/ law enforcement authorities improving the trust and to play a protagonist role on mediating conflicts and preventing violent extremism
2. Enhanced trust and interactions between youth and people from other religious and ethnic communities and between students from different education institutions with improved critical thinking among students
3. Enhanced youth awareness on VE and resilience against hate speech, and disinformation campaign, with better access to positive messaging
4. Youth have access to sustainable livelihood opportunities to strengthen economic resilience

Objective

1. Verify and validate the grant progress (in relation to the table below) to clarify whether the funded programs are implemented as per the grant agreements, with a focus on activities and outputs - including beneficiary selection processes;
2. Identify any gaps in implementation and key issues or bottlenecks in the programming (e.g. Issues in PVE programming design, implementation process, project or data management, beneficiary selection);
3. Identify any potential early results in terms of immediate outcomes, such as knowledge change due to trainings; improved coordination and national/local level mechanism for R&R etc.
4. Collect and capture a sample of beneficiary, sub-recipient, and community feedback on the program;

5. Inform GCERF through a concise but meaningful report, following the OECD DAC evaluation criteria, especially relevance, efficiency and effectiveness.

Activity Type	Scope	Location
Youth trained on PVE (Preventing violent extremism) and lead and implement community level interventions to prevent violent extremism including dialog forums between government officials and	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 105 local government officers 100 community members 	Ampara District
Vulnerable youth offered psychosocial support and counselling through art-based and crisis interventions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 100 vulnerable multi-ethnic youth 	Colombo
Youth identified and trained on PVE to become agents of change	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 100 vulnerable multi-ethnic youth 	Colombo
Youth trained on critical thinking, mediation and developed micro-projects, aimed at preventing violent extremism	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 80 Faith leaders, school principals and teachers 200 Students in church school, Daham schools, Ara and Neri as well as Madrasas 	Batticaloa and Colombo
Students trained on soft and critical skills with the objective being resilient to violent extremism	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 225 students 	Ampara district
Mentors identified and linked to student societies for guidance and positive peer influence	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 15 mentors, supporting 15 student societies 	Ampara district
Youth educated on negative impacts of violent behaviours, hate speech, cyber bullying, with a aim of reducing ethno-religious tensions on social media	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 840 youth 60 Youth leaders 	Kandy district
University students trained on forum theatre and digital drama skills and	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 360 university students in 8 universities 	Kandy, Ampara and Colombo district

security with the purpose of enhancing social cohesion		
Films launched on the significance of social cohesion and collective community action	1. 18 short films published online	Kandy
District youth forum created and met to address issues that require reconciliation	1. Two district forums held	Batticaloa
Women groups established and trained to act as agents for preventing violent extremism and social cohesion		
Preventing violent extremism training for subgrantees in Colombo	1. 13 Subgrantees	Colombo

Work to be performed and deliverables

Based on the above objectives, it is expected that the following deliverables and timelines will be met;

	Task/Output	Timeframe
a.	Award of Contract	July 1 2023
b.	Inception Meeting	July 15, 2023
c.	Inception Report (5-10 pages): approach, scope, data collection plan, workplan	July 20, 2023
d.	Finalized tools for data collection	July 30, 2023
e.	Data collection finalised	August 20, 2023
l.	Annex of cleaned and filed raw data	September 30, 2023
f.	Preliminary findings presentation to GCERF Sri Lanka country team	September 30, 2023
g.	A first draft of report (max. 20-30 pages, excluding annexes)	October 15, 2023
k.	A final draft of the Report based on first draft GCERF feedback (20- and maximum 30 pages, excluding annexes)	October 28, 2023
m.	A two-page summary, which summarises the methodology, findings and recommendations	October 30, 2023

Characteristics of the provider

To qualify it the applicant consultant or team should have the following qualities:

1. Experience in conducting third party monitoring exercises or independent evaluations in Sri Lanka or South Asia.
2. Expertise in PVE or related fields (such as peacebuilding or conflict resolution/transformation) in the context of Sri Lanka or South Asia
3. Technical writing skills, evidenced by published knowledge products.
4. Knowledge of Sinhala or Tamil is a **must** for at least one of the team member (if a team). Fluency in English is required for this position.

GCERF will not be responsibility for nor facilitate any duty of care arrangements, bidders must account for conducting own logistical, insurance, and security planning.

The preferred service provider is a recognised, credible institution or company with extensive experience in research/evaluation, particularly in Somalia.

Bidders without prior experience in governance, peace & conflict, and/or P/CVE and research methods need not apply.

The provider must comply with all applicable laws and regulations and should adhere to a strict confidentiality policy in relation to client information.

Its staffing levels, qualifications and expertise should be appropriate to be able to provide timely and high-quality services to GCERF. The provider should demonstrate a high degree of commitment to good customer service and a willingness to listen to the ideas and priorities of GCERF.

The fees charged should be reasonable, competitive and related to services rendered to the extent possible. The provider must comply with all applicable laws and regulations. It should adhere to a strict confidentiality policy in relation to client information. The provider should also abide by the following:

Submission of proposals

Proposals should 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 **June 30, 2023** by email in the form of "pdf files" clearly indicating "**Bid reference: RFP 2023-13**" under subject. The email should be addressed to **bids@gcerf.org**.

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 bidder 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. GCERF will in no case be responsible or liable for those costs, regardless of the conduct or outcome of the selection process.

Selection of bidders

Bidders are requested to provide the most appropriate and cost-effective solution to meet the requirements.

The selection will be made based on several criteria that will be applied systematically to all bids received:

- Responsiveness to request;
- Proposed approach;
- Qualifications, experience and composition of the team;
- Credibility of the bidder organisation;
- Quality of the offer document; and
- Financial offer.

Proposal template

Bidders must submit their proposal following the template below:

The proposal is made up of four different sections, all shall be included into one single document, if possible.

1. Disclosure form
2. Profile of the bidder
3. Technical proposal
4. Financial proposal

Please keep the overall proposal within 10 pages. You may annex additional information as needed.

1. Disclosure form

To be completed by a duly authorised representative of the Bidder: *On behalf of (name of public institution/private or public business entity/myself) (referred to in this document as "the Bidder"), I (name and title of the Bidder's representative) confirm that I am a duly authorised representative of the Bidder and hereby submit this proposal in response to GCERF's Request for Proposal 2023-13. I confirm that all statements and representations made in the proposal are true and correct.*

Date submitted:

Submitted by: (Name of Bidder)

Name and Title of Authorised Representative:

Date:

Signature

2. Profile of the Bidder

Please provide a brief background of the Bidder, highlighting relevant research and country experiences, including existing relationships in the country.

Please explain the legal status of the bidder; including its registration with the relevant competent authorities.

Please explain your organisational/individual strengths and values and your customer service approach.

Please provide information on prior experience with similar requirements and references that GCERF may contact.

3. Technical Proposal

A. Business need: Please indicate your understanding of GCERF's business needs for which you are submitting this proposal.

B. Objectives and deliverables :

Please list the deliverables as specified in this Request for Proposal and indicate whether and how the Bidder commits to deliver these.

Optional: Present deliverables not listed in this Request for Proposal but which in your expert assessment, are necessary to achieve the objectives of this request.

C. Approach:

Please provide your ideas on the following:

1. Research design and methods that will be used to collect the data and answer the questions proposed.
2. Suitability of the proposed work plan and timeline: key tasks/phases, deliverables, indicative timeline and provisional dates of activities - may be presented using text and/or graphics;
3. Measures to ensure quality control over the delivery of services to GCERF.

D. Service Management Plan:

Please provide details for how your firm would ensure that it provides satisfactory services to GCERF. Please explain how you would coordinate the service offering, including proposed meetings and any proposed mechanism for feedback to and/or coordination with GCERF.

E. Team Composition:

Please provide the following information on the proposed team that would work with GCERF:

- Team organisation
- Individual team members; name, role in the team, area of expertise and relevant experience. Please include their CVs.
- Describe any team members that are to be sub-contracted within North Macedonia. Please include their CVs and areas of expertise.

F. Risk Mitigation Plan:

Please list any identified risks, including potential security and ethical concerns, which may affect the successful delivery of services and any proposed mitigating measures.

G. Assumptions (optional):

Please list the assumptions on which your proposed approach and successful completion of deliverables are based that you think would be important for GCERF to understand.

H. References:

Please briefly provide recent examples of similar projects has recently undertaken. Please indicate if the name of the client may be disclosed and if GCERF may contact the client for references.

4. Financial Proposal

Please explain the basis of the proposed fees and any other charges to GCERF and their level. This should include costing for administrative tasks including travel, accommodation, and visa procurement. Please note that GCERF is exempt from VAT. Please include the basis for invoicing and terms and conditions for payment. The costs should be USD.