

## **Request for Proposal 2019-06 – Country Needs Assessment in Somalia**

### Contents of this Request for Proposal

About GCERF .....	1
Description of Services.....	2
<i>Background</i> .....	2
<i>Objective</i> .....	3
<i>Work to be performed and deliverables</i> .....	3
Characteristics of the provider .....	6
Submission of proposals .....	7
Period of validity of the proposal .....	7
Cost of preparation and submission of the proposal .....	7
Selection of bidders.....	7
Proposal template .....	8
1. <i>Disclosure form</i> .....	8
2. <i>Profile of the Bidder</i> .....	8
3. <i>Technical Proposal</i> .....	8
4. <i>Financial Proposal</i> .....	10

### About GCERF

The Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF) is a global fund based in Geneva providing grants for local national organisations to prevent violent extremism. It signed a Headquarters Agreement with the Swiss government in May 2015, providing it with privileges and immunities in Switzerland.

GCERF is the first global effort to support local, community-level initiatives aimed at strengthening 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 radicalisation; provide tangible, positive alternatives to what violent extremist groups may offer; counter violent extremist narratives and messaging; and build capacity of governments and civil society to counter violent extremism. Applications of proposals funded by GCERF are subject to rigorous independent assessment and performance monitoring and evaluation.

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. It is financially supported by more than 15 donor countries..

GCERF has 30 employees who are currently all based in its offices in Geneva. GCERF is actively working with governments, civil society and the private sector in Bangladesh, Kenya, Kosovo, Mali, Nigeria, the Philippines, and Tunisia. An initial set of GCERF-funded projects is now being implemented. GCERF is expanding its activities in other countries and would like to assess the current PVE needs in Somalia based on an initial request of the Prime Minister's Office of the Somali Government.

## Description of Services

### Background

GCERF focuses on local communities because they suffer the most from violent extremism (VE), and because they are optimally placed to understand and act upon the drivers of VE. GCERF's work is anchored in the Sustainable Development Goals, in particular Goal 16 "Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions." GCERF is also committed to the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (2006) and the UN Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism (2016).

GCERF commissions independent country needs assessments (CNAs) to provide an assessment of: (a) the impact of VE; (b) the drivers of recruitment and radicalisation to VE; and (c) relevant regional/national/local preventing violent extremism (PVE) strategies/policies. The CNA will draw on, and build upon, existing research and analysis.

GCERF received a formal request for partnership from the Prime Minister of Somalia in 2018. On the basis of this request, GCERF seeks a service provider to conduct CNA to inform the development of country strategy for Somalia. GCERF CNAs are public documents, which will be available for donors, government representatives and local and international civil society organisations. The completed CNA is intended to contribute to the international community's mapping of the drivers and responses to VE at a national level in Somalia.

## Objective

To commission an authoritative CNA on Somalia that will inform GCEF and its Governing Board about the PVE needs in Somalia and will contribute to decision on possible partnership.

The specific objectives of the CNA are:

- a) To assess the impact of VE in Somalia with consideration to the regional context of Kenya and Ethiopia.
- b) To identify and analyse the drivers of recruitment and radicalisation to VE in Somalia with some consideration to the regional context;
- c) To identify relevant existing regional/national/local strategies/policies to prevent VE;
- d) To identify lessons from the community level on resilience to VE (*insights from the assessment*);
- e) To identify specific geographic locations and areas of the country where VE is most prevalent.
  - a. Provide analysis regarding areas and activities with greatest potential for impact in short-term and/or long term PVE programming.

## Work to be performed and deliverables

### **1. COVERAGE AND SCOPE**

The GCERF Secretariat will facilitate and support the provider(s) throughout the CNA process by providing background briefings, guidance, introductions to GCERF stakeholders in country, and other support when necessary. It is expected that the provider will present appropriate evidence, analysis and answers to the following questions:

#### **a) The impact of VE<sup>1</sup> (*background information*)**

- What is the history of VE in the country?
- How does VE manifest in the country?
  - What are the existing VE groups?

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<sup>1</sup> Describe the overall level of violent extremism (VE) in reference to available and credible indicators such as those found in the Global Terrorism Database (GTD), Global Terrorism Index (GTI), or the Uppsala Conflict Data Program (UCDP).

- Are there any specific, significant grievances and conflicts (including cross-border or regional)?
- What impact does VE currently have on affected communities, including specific gender considerations?
- What is the potential extent and impact of VE in the country and the region?
- What is the relation of the different clans to VE groups?

**b) The drivers of recruitment and radicalisation to VE** (*focus of the assessment*)

- Who is most vulnerable or exposed to recruitment and radicalisation to VE?
  - Where are the vulnerable people and communities located?
  - What are the perceived drivers of recruitment and radicalisation to VE, specific to each location and population group?
- Where and how do violent extremist groups recruit new members?
  - What is the role of clan, religion, and political rivalry in recruiting for violent extremist groups?
  - What dynamics allow VE to perpetuate itself?

**c) Relevant regional/national/local strategies/policies to prevent VE** (*focus of the assessment*)

- Describe the stability and effectiveness of the country's government and key state institutions, in reference to available and credible indicators such as on fragility, corruption, peace, human rights, and governance?
- Is the country covered by any relevant regional/national/local preventing violent extremism (PVE) strategies /policies? Please describe the strategies/policies, including objectives, responsibilities, lead agencies, etc.
- Does the government acknowledge the VE threat and risks? Is there a public debate or discourse around VE and its impact?
  - At the national level, who has credibility and legitimacy to speak out against VE? Who is already speaking out against VE?
  - What is the relation of the regional states to VE?
  - Which regional authorities are P/CVE champions? How does it manifest?
- What PVE activities are currently being implemented in the country of assessment by civil society, governmental (regional, national), international, multilateral, and/or private sector entities?
  - What organisations and actors are involved in cross-border work between Somalia and Kenya?
  - Is radicalisation to VE the subject of study or research in the country? If so, please identify by whom and how regularly it is undertaken.

The CNA will be informed by available secondary research materials to answer questions:

**d) Lessons from the community level on resilience to VE** (*insights from the assessment*)

- What do affected communities say would be the most effective ways to prevent radicalisation to VE?
- What are the elements of resilience that contribute to strengthening: social cohesion, community agency, equal access to opportunities, and sense of purpose, as defined in detail in GCERF's Strategy?

## **2. METHODOLOGY**

While the specific methodology is to be outlined by the applicant as part of its proposal and inception report, this section outlines GCERF's expectations regarding the methodological approach.

### *Inception Report*

An Inception Report will draw on, and build upon, existing research and analysis to: (a) inform an initial response to the questions listed under *Coverage and Scope* above; as well as (b) an elaboration of the framing questions provided above; (c) establish the objectives and itinerary of both proposed secondary (desk) research and in-country data collection; and (d) provide a detailed methodological description, which outlines stakeholder mapping, interview schedules that will be used, etc.,

### *Country Needs Assessment*

The CNA will build on relevant regional/national/local PVE strategies/policies and review the body of relevant analysis by academic, civil society, governmental, international, multilateral, and/or private sector entities. It is suggested to use in-country expertise during this process, and to consider semi-structured interviews with key informants. GCERF encourages the use of quantitative analysis (including exploring well-known indicators, and datasets) to complement the research. In-country consultations will focus on a wide spectrum of relevant stakeholders from governmental, civil society, international, multilateral, and/or private sector entities active in PVE in the country.

GCERF emphasises that the analysis should be based on existing and credible sources of information, and that information should be backed up by different sources and methods including semi-structured interviews and secondary research. The information should also be assessed for reliability and validity (as reasonable and feasible within the timeframe, context, and resources available).

## **3. DELIVERABLES AND TIMELINE**

The CNA will follow a report template proposed by the service provider and agreed by GCERF. A detailed timeline of deliverables is outlined below.

- It is envisaged that the CNA will involve approximately 30 days of work, over the period of June–July 2019
  1. Preparation of inception report for approval; (within 5 days from signing the contract with GCERF)
  2. Desk research;
  3. In-country assessment (minimum 7 working days expected); and
  4. Report writing (which will include one round of drafts for review and feedback from the GCERF Secretariat).

### Characteristics of the provider

GCERF is seeking to commission a service provider with: demonstrated expertise in PVE; prior experience conducting in-country research and analysis where VE is a concern; and knowledge of the PVE context in Somalia.

Applicants should have the following competencies:

- Extensive research and analysis experience relevant to PVE in Somalia;
- Extensive experience in conflict analysis in Somalia;
- Thorough understanding of the sensitivities of PVE work;
- Experience in conducting in-country assessments;
- Somali language skills;
- Deep understanding of Somali clan influence on national politics, security, and the society as a whole;
- Ability to draft concise reports and communicate the CNA results clearly;
- Ability to interact with, national stakeholders (e.g. government officials, regional authorities, donors, academic and civil society institutions) in a sensitive and effective way;
- Ability to move around Somalia freely and access all areas relevant to the assessment.

The preferred applicant is a recognised, credible research institution/entity. Applicants without prior experience conducting in-country research and analysis on drivers of VE need not apply.

The provider must comply with all applicable laws and regulations. It 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. The composition of the team servicing GCERF's account will be an important factor in the decision making process of GCERF. It is encouraged that the team includes Somali nationals and expertise especially women.

The fees charged should be reasonable, competitive and related to services rendered to the extent possible.

### 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 **25 May 2019** by mail or courier in a closed envelope to GCERF's offices clearly marked "Bid reference: 2019-06". The proposal may also be submitted by email in the form of "pdf files". 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 most cost-effective solution to meet the requirements.

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

- Responsiveness to request;
- Proposed approach and methodology;
- 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

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 authorized representative of the Bidder and hereby submit this proposal in response to GCERF's Request for Proposal 2019-06. 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 information on the following:

1. Methodology for conducting the assessment;
2. Workplan: 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.
4. **In cases where an international supplier has staff travel to Somalia:**
  - i. Visa, ID cards and entry documentation including associated costs;
  - ii. Customs clearance and secondary clearance procedures for equipment (Communications, health, IT equipment etc.) along with all associated costs;
  - iii. Provision of CASEVAC for supplier international staff to second country locations.
  - iv. In cases where an international supplier will hire local staff:
  - v. Hiring and managing local staff;
  - vi. Provision of medical and CASEVAC support to operations staff.

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.

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.

Date: 10 May 2019