

Annexure 1

Terms of Reference Consultant Researcher Consultant Assistant Researcher

Mapping of Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), and the approaches they take to respond to and minimise violence.

Location: Colombo

Contract period: 06 months (starting from 01 August 2022 to 31 December 2022) with a possible extension through to January 2021

Reports to: Executive Director

Background

The Law and Society Trust (LST) is a legal research and advocacy organisation founded in 1982 to promote legal reforms to support access to justice, the justiciability of rights, and public accountability

LST is supporting a project on social inclusion that is funded by the Asia Foundation.

Under this programme, LST will develop an updated mapping of Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), and the approaches they take to respond to and minimise violence.

Under this new project The LST will support strengthening civil society and fostering inclusion through informed public participation to vision ways of minimising violence that periodically faces the country. These objectives are supported through documentation, sharing of information, messaging, stimulating discussion through workshops, trainings and dialogues.

Project objectives:

- Develop an updated mapping of CSOs, their vision and mission and the approaches they take to responding to violence in general, specifically assess CSO responses to the violence impacting on marginalized communities (ethnic, religious and sexual minorities) , including women and girls.;
- Engage with the CSOs and develop an understanding of their views on what constitutes violence in the context of Sri Lanka and their capacities to respond to structural, physical and psychological dimensions of violence against marginalised communities;
- Map meaningful government mechanisms, both formal and informal, that exist to respond to such incidents.
- Assess CSO engagement in these governmental institutions and processes;
- Generate greater CSO reflection on their roles in addressing violence;
- Create awareness of the work of these CSOs - that is useful for the donors, community, governmental agencies and the CSOs themselves.

Roles and responsibilities:

The methodology and activities will include:

Desk research on CSOs; and on the types of violence that CSOs have encountered and engaged with;

Develop questionnaires and conduct CSO interviews (by phone and or in focus group discussions) on their responses to violence;

Conduct Focus Group Discussions with peer groups within the CSO community

Document / develop special case studies around CSO responses to violence and draw lessons;

Develop report - Based on the desk review, questionnaires, interviews and CSO dialogues and FGDs ... capturing the dynamics of violence and the diffusion of violence, the skills and capacities required of CSOs

A detailed Terms of Reference will be provided to the successful candidate/s

Requirements:

Researcher:

- Academic degree or higher in Law, Social Sciences / Economy/ Sociology/ or a relevant field – preferably Masters degree in a compatible field of study and / or 5 years of experience in a related field;
- Strong legal and social research background on issues related to human rights (civil and political and economic, social and cultural rights)
- Good verbal and written command of English and Sinhala/Tamil language. Ability to manage both local languages is an added advantage.
- Skills and experiences in communication and media (social and mainstream) will be an added advantage.
- Comply with ethical standards and LST's Code of Conduct

Assistant researcher

must have an undergraduate degree in a compatible field of study (law, political / social sciences), and / or 3 years of experience in a related field;

- Academic degree in Law, Social Sciences / Economy/ Sociology/ or a relevant field – and or 5 years of experience in a related field;
- Strong legal and social research background on issues related to human rights (civil and political and economic, social and cultural rights)
- Good verbal and written command of English and Sinhala/Tamil language. Ability to manage both local languages is an added advantage.
- Skills and experiences in communication and media (social and mainstream) will be an added advantage.
- Comply with ethical standards and LST's Code of Conduct
- Experience and sensitivity to reporting on issues relating to inclusion, conflict resolution. Work in collaboration with and to support the researcher in the above project.
- Comply with ethical standards and LST's Code of Conduct

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