

## **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

### **External evaluation of “Constructive dialogues on religion and democracy”**

#### **I. BACKGROUND**

##### **Project goals, description.**

International Alert (hereafter Alert) and the Public Foundation Lyman (hereafter Lyman) are implementing the project ‘Constructive Dialogues on Religion and Democracy’, funded by EU IcSP. The project aims to support an open public discourse and communication about the freedom of religion and belief, the role of religion in people’s life, the interrelation between state and religious institutions, and state policies on religion. The project began in February 2017 and will conclude in January 2020.

#### **II. DESCRIPTION OF THE ASSIGNMENT**

##### **1. Objectives of the assignment**

- An analysis of the extent to which the outcomes achieved correspond to those formulated in the project proposal documents
- The strengths and the weaknesses of project implementation
- An assessment of the impact of the project from the perspective of the theory (theories) of change of the project consortium partners
- To assess the project impact and outcomes in relation to the wider secular-religious dialogue (and PVE) context in Kyrgyzstan
- Recommendations and lessons to be learned for future work

##### **2. Requested services**

The expert is expected to provide the following services:

- Prior to the start of the mission to the region, undertake home-based desk review of all available project documentation, including proposal documents, narrative reports, mid-term evaluation, and other project resources;
- Briefing meetings or conversations with the Alert and Lyman project teams in Kyrgyzstan and the UK;
- Interviews with project staff in country;
- Consultations with key informants and beneficiaries in country, including the donor.

##### **3. Methodology**

The evaluation will be based on 1) interviews with the project staff, partners, local partners, and local beneficiaries and stakeholders; 2) a review of the project documents; (if possible, 3 attendance at project activities).

The expert will implement his/her assignment, including the planning of his/her field visit, in close consultation with the project coordination committee (PCC, led by Alert’s country representative in Bishkek) and Alert’s Senior Programme Design and Assessment Officer in London (SPDAO).

##### **4. Required outputs**

The expert(s) will produce:

- Draft mission report to be submitted to the PCC and SPDAO for discussion and finalisation of findings;
- Final (English-language) report covering overall conclusions for the contract and for accountability and learning.

The final report recapitulating the methods used, identifying key recommendations should be delivered within one month after the end of the field data collection period. This report has to detail all activities implemented, problems encountered, and solutions adopted, as well as a detailed description of the results achieved, and provide conclusions addressing the specific objectives of the assignment.

### **5. Budget**

The total available budget for all costs associated with the evaluation is €14,000. This must include all travel and field visit to the country and provinces of the country

### **6. Duration**

Implementation of the contract is foreseen to start in October 2019 and should be finished in December 2019. The assignment will include a field visit to the Kyrgyz Republic and its provinces where project activities have been implemented. After an initial read of the project documents the evaluator/s must submit a timeline outlining proposed evaluation activities and deliverables (duration and cost) to be approved by Alert. Alert will assist the evaluator/s with the organisation of meetings/interviews/etc. according to this timeline.

### **7. Expertise required**

- Minimum of 7 years' professional (including field) experience in peacebuilding, development, humanitarian aid, and/or related fields, at least 5 of which in monitoring and evaluation. The candidate must demonstrate experience in the management or evaluation of large-scale projects, including those funded by the EU
- Proven experience of having worked in a crisis, conflict or post-conflict environment and context in Central Asia (Kyrgyz Republic preferred)
- Familiarity with approaches to conflict prevention and peacebuilding
- Excellent communication skills both written and oral in the English and Russian languages (Kyrgyz desirable)

### **8. Objectivity and confidentiality**

The objectivity and quality of experts' judgements are crucial for the credibility of the system. Any information acquired under this contract other than that reported in the reports, is to be treated as confidential. No information of commercial nature may be communicated or used for commercial purposes.

### **9. Tender procedure**

Please send your applications by 30<sup>th</sup> September (09:00 am Bishkek time) to [Kyrgyzstan@international-alert.org](mailto:Kyrgyzstan@international-alert.org)

When applying for this assignment the candidate is invited to submit the following documentation:

- Curriculum/a Vitae
- A cover letter outlining experience and suitability for the assignment (no more than 2 sides of A4)

Alert would accept bids by a team of evaluators, as long as the budget would not exceed a total of €14,000.