



TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE LEARNING AGENDA

Project Title	Learning Agenda Question
Assignment	Conduct an Action research leading to a Policy brief on how formal and informal (CSOs) become sustainable in lobby and advocacy jointly influencing the WPS agenda in South Sudan
Location of the Assignment	Five states where Leaders of peace is being implemented Eastern Equatoria, (Torit & Nimule) Lake State (Yirol) Unity State (Ganyiel & Nyal) Western Equatoria (Yambio) Central Equatoria (Juba & Terekeka)
Period of the Contract (Days)	20 working days (20) between 20 th June 2023 – 14 th July 2023
Type of Contract	Short term Consultancy contract
Budget	4,500 USD
Open to	Research/policy experts or team of experts
Deadline for Submitting Application	15th June 2023
Submit to:	PAX

1.0 Introduction

Peace Movement Netherlands Foundation (PAX) is the largest peace organization in the Netherlands, collaborating with committed citizens and partners to protect civilians against acts of war, curb armed violence and foster just peace. PAX is active in fourteen countries besides the Netherlands. PAX programme intervention by then in Sudan started in 1994, working closely with the churches, community-based organizations, civil society and activists. Currently, PAX works with National partners and networks in Central Equatoria, Eastern Equatoria, Jonglei, Upper Nile, Unity State and Lake State. PAX has a national office in Juba, South Sudan with five experienced South Sudanese project staff excluding the support staff and the head office is in Utrecht, Netherlands. In South Sudan, we are focusing on community-based security and protection of civilians, natural resources and human rights, Transitional justice and women, Peace building, reconciliation and conflict transformation, Peace, and security.

PAX is in a consortium referred to as The Leaders of Peace (LoP), which is an alliance of five partners; Plan International, HealthNetTpo (HNTPO), Assistance Mission for Africa (AMA), and Eve Organization. LoP consortium is implementing a Women Peace and Security programme based on UN Security Council Resolution 1325 (UNSCR1325) and funded by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) for five years (2021-2025). The Program’s strategic objective is *“A more empowering and inclusive environment in South-Sudan, where W/G feel safer, better enabled to realize their rights, to play an influential role towards conflict prevention and sustainable peace”*.

Thus, the LoP programme is based on the Theory of Change of the Dutch NAP 1325 (2016-2020) and the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly SDG 5 and 16. The role of PAX is as technical lead for lobby and advocacy. The programme implementation began in January 2021 and a baseline study was conducted in the same year. This year, 2023, the LoP will be implementing a learning agenda. Three learning agenda questions closely related to the assumptions in our Theory of Change (ToC) and to our Vision on the partnership were planned for the LoP programme.

2.0 Purpose and use

The LoP alliance and its stakeholders jointly developed a learning agenda. The learning agenda will help the alliance to collaborate with peers and colleagues, fill gaps in knowledge and generate new evidence that the alliance can then use to adapt its work. It can also help guide performance management planning by setting knowledge and information priorities. The learning agenda can assist with prioritizing evaluations and research activities as well as in determining key indicators. Moreover, through monitoring, the learning agenda will inform the alliance how to alter, adapt and steer the programme implementation based on the lessons learnt during the programme cycle.

3.0 Learning question

PAX will be leading in learning agenda question 3: How **do formal and informal CSO’s (especially women, men, boys, and youth-led groups) become sustainable lobby and advocacy allies, jointly influencing the WPS agenda?**). Moreover, learning question 3 is related to result area **2 & 3** of LoP.

3.1 Result area 2 & 3

Outcome 2: Changed attitudes and beliefs of civil society to facilitate inclusion of W/G and promote gender equality.

Outcome 3: Increased, effective participation of women and youth (W/Y) in leadership and peacebuilding.

Learning question	Theme: Role of CSO’s in L&A, sustainability of CSOs, male engagement, intersectionality’ How do formal and informal CSO’s (especially women, men, boys, and youth-led groups), become sustainable lobby and advocacy allies jointly influencing the WPS agenda?
Learning activities	Action research (key informant interviews, focus group discussions, field observations and review of published documents and case studies)
Learning products	Policy briefs (Country specific and International)
Learning results	Cross-learning A set of evidence-based policy recommendations. Contribution to policy formulation/ or revision (findings will feed into our international / national advocacy strategy/ies to inform the WPS agenda at global level-- through formulation of policy reports, participation in strategic spaces and platforms, in strategic communication).

3.2 Specific learning questions:

- How do Civil Society actors (e.g., Religious, ethnic or other vulnerable group) become ‘conveners’ while contributing to sustainable participation of CSOs in influencing the WPS agenda?
- How do men and boys get engaged in influencing the WPS agenda based on a gender transformative approach and what triggers men and boys to continue their influencing in the future to become sustainable allies in implementing and lobbying for the WPS agenda in South Sudan.?

- Which kind of inter-organizational structures and arrangements characterize effective/sustainable lobby and advocacy through CSOs?
- What are success factors and barriers in the involvement of non-traditional CS actors (such as, religious, and ethnic groups or other vulnerable groups) in CSOs’ lobby and influencing based upon an intersectional approach?
- What are the success factors and barriers in successful lobby and advocacy of CSOs against restrictive measures undertaken by government reducing the operating civic space?

4.0 Deliverables and responsibilities

The selected consultant is expected to deliver on the following.

- Initial discussion and agreement on the ToR with PAX on the scope, deliverables, time, and procedures of the policy brief paper.
- Submission of inception report/proposal confirming the consultant’s understanding of the Terms of Reference
- Undertake desk review/literature review on specific learning questions.
- Conduct action research on specific learning questions.
- Produce the Draft policy brief.
- Share the Draft policy brief with PAX.
- Participate in a validation workshop organized by PAX with LoP alliance partners to validate the paper.
- Review the draft policy brief to include the input and feedback provided by the LoP alliance partners.
- Finalize the policy brief paper incorporating the feedback from PAX and LOP partners.
- The consultant shall submit the revised final policy brief and participate in the validation workshop.

4.1 Final Policy brief

The brief should be logically structured, contain evidence-based findings, conclusions, lessons, and recommendations, and should be free of information that is not relevant to the overall analysis. The brief should respond in detail to the key focus areas described above. It should include a set of specific recommendations formulated for the project, and identify the necessary actions required to be undertaken, who should undertake those (if any). The brief should be between **5-7 pages in length**.

5.0 Timeline and expected outcome.

NO.	Deliverable/output	Estimated time (Days)	Timeline
1	Advertisement, Notification & selection of successful consultant		5 th –19 th June 2023
2	Plan, design and coordinating the interviews/data collection process, this includes (Inception phase): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Identification of key stakeholders 		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Selection of representative sample of groups to be interviewed on the basis of agreed criteria. ○ Agreeing on the type of information to be collected. ○ Preparation of checklists and other tools for data collection ○ Desk review 	3	20 th – 22 nd June 2023
3	Conducting Key Informant interviews and Focus Group Discussions	5	23 rd –29 th June 2023
4	Analyzing information collected & Producing 1st draft of the report	6	30 th – 7 th July
5.	Incorporate feedback from PAX review of the first draft of the policy brief	1	10 th July 2023
5	Presentation of findings in validation LoP workshop	1	11 th July 2023
6	Incorporation of comments by LoP Consortium from the validation workshop, development of Final Policy Brief and sharing with PAX	2	12 th – 13 th July 2023
7.	Incorporation of final comments/ feedback and submit the final revised report.	1	14 th July 2023
8	submit the revise final and to participate in the launch of the report with Consortium partners	1	To be determined
	Total number of days	20 working days	

6.0 Reporting

The consultant will work closely with the PAX Gender and Advocacy Officer, who is also the programme coordinator for PAX in the LoP alliance. Moreover, the consultant will receive final feedback for accomplished work and publication from the PAX Senior Project Officer.

7.0 REQUIRED SKILLS AND COMPETENCIES

- At least 3 years and above of research / policy brief experience.
- At least 5years of research/ policy analysis experience on issues related to civil society, WPS is preferred.
- Experience of working in multicultural contexts.
- Excellent written and spoken English in addition, spoken Arabic is an added value.
- Excellent planning and prioritization skills.
- Proven ability to multitask and work under tight deadlines.

8.0 BUDGET

The total budget for the assignment is **4,500 USD**. The budget will cover the fees of the expert(s) communication, internal travel and accommodation.

The selected candidates must demonstrate their motivation and commitment for conducting the assignment, as well as present the research plan together with the calendar of activities.

9.0 APPLICATION PROCESS



Interested candidates must send the following application documents by e-mail to

South-Sudan-Application@paxforpeace.nl

- CV and motivation letter.
- One relevant research/ policy analysis samples preferably on subject related to the assignment.
- Summarized research plan (including a calendar of activities and a clear identification of roles and responsibilities in case of a team of experts).
- Company profile or CV including three referees.
- Registration and tax clearance certificates (for Consulting firms)

Please note: In the case of a team of experts, the application folder must contain CVs, letters of motivation and two relevant work samples from all the people involved. Both the successful and unsuccessful candidates will be informed by the **19th June 2023**.