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Call for tender for a research

Understanding Humanitarian Access through Perceptions by Communities and ANSA of (I)NGOs in South Sudan

**December 2019**

**Introduction**

Geneva Call is a private, not-for-profit humanitarian organization founded in 1998 under Swiss law. It is a neutral and impartial non-governmental organization dedicated to promoting respect by armed non-State actors (ANSAs) for international humanitarian norms in armed conflict and other situations of violence, in particular those related to the protection of civilians. Geneva Call is particularly focusing its efforts on banning the use of anti-personnel mines, protecting children from the effects of armed conflict, prohibiting sexual violence in armed conflict and protecting the medical mission.

In 2019, Geneva Call developed its activities in over 15 countries across Africa, Latin America, Middle East and Europe. Geneva Call is registered in South Sudan since 2018 with the South Sudan Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (SSRRC). With funding from the German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO), Geneva Call is implementing a project named ***“Enhancing protection of civilian populations in areas of armed conflict in South Sudan”*** aiming at improving the behaviour of ANSAs for a better protection of the civilian population, including the humanitarian access. This includes liaising with armed stakeholders and communities.

**Background**

Lack of access to people in need of humanitarian assistance is a challenge faced in most conflict-affected countries. Observers and humanitarian actors emphasize that several obstacles impede access of humanitarian actors to those in need.

Within the frame of its project in the Republic of South Sudan, Geneva Call will undertake a research on humanitarian access including the perception of both communities and ANSAs of the humanitarian sector, aiming at understanding better the issues faced by the humanitarian stakeholders in terms of negotiating and maintaining their access.

**Purpose**

Geneva Call’s research will aim at establishing a historical background of humanitarian intervention in South Sudan and, under specific hypothesis with regard to trends, risks and challenges, at assessing NGOs strategies on access negotiation, faced difficulties, perception of humanitarian stakeholders by ANSAs and communities. The study will include an in-depth analysis of NGOs perception by communities and ANSAs as well as an analysis of NGOs methodologies to secure and maintain humanitarian access. The main findings will be shared with the humanitarian community and the stakeholders involved in the study. The final goal of this research will be to identify practical solutions to improve access and to design adapted sensitization material intended to ANSAs.

**Tender**

Geneva Call in South Sudan invites tenders from independent consultants to **submit their applications latest on the 15th of December 2019.** The complete Tender File should be submitted to the following email address:

hr-field-vacancies@genevacall.org

With the reference in the email title: **“TenderSouthSudan UHA**”

**Timeframe**

The consultancy will consist of approximately 30 days spread over the period from January to December 2020 in close coordination with Geneva Call’s team in South Sudan with support from the Headquarters in Geneva, stakeholders and partner in-country.

The following is a suggested timeframe:

* 5 days for research tools design, methodology layout;
* 15 days for conducting the research;
* 7 days for producing the final report including validation;
* 3 days for dissemination of final report.

**Consultant Profile**

It is expected that the consultant has a high level of technical expertise and work experience in either International Humanitarian Law (IHL) or humanitarian protection. He/she must have a strong understanding of humanitarian access impediments, access negotiation strategies, GBV prevention mechanisms, and experience of working with local actors in humanitarian response in armed conflict and violence. It is expected that the consultant be based in the country, with a strong understanding of the national / state level context and humanitarian structure. The consultant should also be able to work across the whole of the territory of the Republic of South Sudan.

**Format of the Tender**

In responding to this invitation, tenders should provide the following information, striving for no more than 2,000 words:

1. Name and contact details of tenderer (the tenderer is understood to be the person who will be responsible for the contract and for liaising with Geneva Call Office); CV outlining their respective experience in humanitarian access negotiation and protection of civilians in armed conflict and violence including a list of trainings already attended/conducted, and a bibliography of published articles;
2. CV for the individuals to be engaged by the tenderer in conducting the research;
3. Proof of a valid tax clearance certificate in the Republic of South Sudan and status under which the tenderer wishes to applicate to the tender;
4. Contact details of two relevant referees that can verify the tenderer’s technical expertise;
5. Design of the methodology intended including:
	* history of humanitarian intervention in South Sudan;
	* description of humanitarian access issues in-country;
	* related hypothesis of the research;
	* related bibliography;
	* mapping of existing strategies for the humanitarian actors;
	* description of sampling, target selection, questionnaires, geographical scope, etc.;
	* risks for the research (including security) and mitigation measures;
	* calendar of the research.
6. Proposed fee per day (indicating taxes) for conducting the research and producing the final paper and subsequent support, exclusive of accommodation, perdiem, transport costs.

**Deliverables of the Research**

* Design of the methodology (see above);
* Conducting the research itself;
* Formalizing the research report, including main findings, and recommendations for the humanitarian community (implementers, donors);
* Leading a presentation of the main findings and recommendations of the research. It will mainly target humanitarian stakeholders, including donors.

Specific tasks will include:

* Review current humanitarian access constrains/ impediments, community, government and armed non-state actors perceptions on the role of non-governmental organizations in protection of civilians during armed conflicts.
* Sharing findings, actions plans, recommendations, and lessons learned with the humanitarian community in South Sudan.

**Expected Outcome of the Research**

* Actions, a report, and training materials (translated into local language, if required) coming out of the training on the IASC guidelines;
* Capacity building plan per implementing partner, and final report once implemented;
* Overall report of capacity building support to all partners, including achievements, lessons learned, and recommendations for the attention of the Geneva Call

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