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Evaluation of the NepalMonitor Project (NMP)

CALL FOR TENDERS

1. Purpose

peace brigades international Deutscher Zweig e.V. (pbi Germany) is seeking an experienced consultant to undertake a midterm evaluation of the NepalMonitor Project in Nepal.

2. The Organisation

Peace Brigades International (PBI) is a non-governmental organisation, registered in the USA in 1981, which protects human rights and promotes nonviolent conflict transformation. We provide protection, capacity building and other support for threatened human rights defenders and communities striving to promote social justice and human rights in areas of violent conflict and repression. Our current field projects are in Colombia, Guatemala, Honduras, Kenya, Indonesia, Mexico and Nepal.

pbi Germany is one of 14 country groups in Europe and North America. Founded in 1991, it is supporting the field projects, mainly by the recruitment, training and accompaniment of volunteers and civil peace workers as well as project related advocacy and fundraising. In addition, its educational program "Human Rights Learning & Living", which was created in 2004, builds a bridge between pbi's international presence and human rights work in Germany as it aims at raising awareness about the global and local connections of human rights violations.

3. Background and Project Description

The NepalMonitor Project started in 2014 in partnership with the Collective Campaign for Peace (COCAP) in order to contribute to securing Human Rights Defenders (WHRDs) space in Nepal. Being at the heart of this cooperation, the project evolves around an online platform, NepalMonitor.org, that allows the crowdsourcing and distribution of reports of human rights violations and security incidents in Nepal. Using latest ICT-tools, NepalMonitor.org alerts local organisations in Nepal to human rights and security incidents in their area, and allows anyone to easily share incidents with local, national and international organisations. Furthermore, it includes the prospect that by this joint use, contributors and users will become a national human rights community and engage in cooperative action to protect themselves and strengthen their work. The project includes a capacity development component, offering trainings to local human rights defenders, carried out by the NepalMonitor team. Tailored to their respective situation and related needs, this component strengthens Human Rights Defenders security management in a holistic way and fosters their networking and opportunities for advocacy. Advocacy at the local level is moreover complemented by advocacy and lobbying on an international level. The NepalMonitor Project is supported by the Civil Peace Service (CPS) and supervised by pbi Germany.

For further information see: www.nepalmonitor.org.

4. Scope of the consultancy

Objectives

This mid-term evaluation serves as important participatory learning process for all stakeholders involved in the ongoing project. Its aim is to contribute to develop the project further and to help in assuring a careful handover to the partner organisation in preparation of pbi's exit from the project in 2020. Therefore, the evaluation will look at three main issues:

The structure of the project

The set-up and implementation, including the achievement of the desired direct impacts, during the first phase (2014 – 2017)

The intended exit of pbi

The mid-term evaluation should generate practical hands-on recommendations that can be implemented by the project actors within their sphere of control and influence over the remaining project period and lessons learnt for an overarching knowledge management and ongoing learning within PBI. The evaluation will cover the project's implementation period from November 2014 until now.

Key Questions

<u>General</u>

What is the relevance of the NMP in the given context? Does it contribute to moving towards a just and sustainable peace?

Is the project designed and implemented in a conflict sensitive way?

For the structure

Is the structure that has been set up plausible, effective and appropriate in the given context?

What have been apparent challenges and/or obstacles for the implementation related to the structure?

Did we do any harm by creating the structure and/or in the partnership?

For the set up and implementation

Impact 1: Human rights defenders who work on the local level in and out of Kathmandu strengthen their capacities for security management by using the NepalMonitor for analysing the specific context of their work as well as overarching trends.

In how far has this impact been achieved?

What have been key factors for the achievements but also shortcomings?

- looking at what we did
- looking at how we did it

Have all aspects of a holistic security management been addressed (equally)?

Did the observed impact affect the Human Rights Defender's work?

Have there been unintended impacts?

- positive or negative ones

Impact 2: The local partner COCAP uses NepalMonitor to strengthen their advocacy work on the national as well as international level. Increasingly, the NepalMonitor facilitates activities to improve the situation of Women human rights defenders.

In how far has this impact been achieved?

What have been key factors for the achievements but also shortcomings?

- looking at what we did
- looking at how we did it

Have there been traceable changes/successes based on COCAP's strengthened advocacy work?

Did the activities to improve the situation of WHRDs create the expected betterment?

Have there been unintended impacts?

• positive or negative ones

For the exit

Which components of the NMP are crucial to be continued by the partner organisation in order to sustain and carry forward the positive impact of the NMP?

What is needed in order to ensure the continuance of those components?

How can the NMP work towards this sustainability within the remaining project time?

5. Methodology

The evaluator/evaluation team is responsible for developing a methodological approach suitable for the described task and based on the CPS's understanding of impact and comprehension of conflict sensitivity, gender and human rights as cross cutting issues.

Thereby PBI prefers a focus on participatory methods and expects the methodological approach to reflect the purpose of the midterm evaluation as a learning experience. Possible methods are interviews, focus group discussions, storytelling, observation of activities, etc. Nevertheless, we are generally open for other techniques and welcome suggestions. The final methodology will be developed in close cooperation with pbi Germany and depends on the proposal of the external evaluator/evaluation team. It will be defined during the preparation of the evaluation. The partner organisation, target groups, beneficiaries, regional experts and other stakeholders have to be included in the evaluation process.

6. Process and time frame

Preparation (up to 4 days)

- Desk review of available project documentation (applications, reports, etc.)
- The evaluator/s will familiarize themselves with the details of the project. All necessary documentation will be provided by pbi Germany. A briefing meeting is foreseen with pbi Germany, the project manager and a member of the Project Committee

Field evaluation (up to 12 days)

- The evaluator/s will conduct site visits in Kathmandu and 2-3 districts representing the different regions the NepalMonitor Project is working in
- The evaluator/s will conduct interviews and/or focus group discussions with the project team, key personnel of the partner organization, Human Rights Defender organizations, representatives of the international community and authorities
- Focus group discussions/workshops and/or interviews are also foreseen with women and men of the project's target groups (WHRDs) and relevant community members, pbi suggests to include story telling methods or other participative methods
- In a one-day "initial findings sharing workshop" with the project team and the partner organization preliminary conclusions and recommendations will be presented, discussed and further refined

Reporting phase (up to 4 days)

• The consultant/s will write a draft evaluation report in English that they share with pbi Germany and present their findings and recommendations at pbi Germany in Hamburg. Feedback from pbi Germany, the Project Committee and the NMP will be integrated into the final English report.

7. Outputs and Deliverables

- The evaluator/evaluation team is expected to give a presentation of preliminary findings and recommendations in English to the NepalMonitor Project team and the partner organisation
- The evaluator/evaluation team is expected to compile a draft report in English 10 days after return from the evaluation mission which has to be shared with pbi Germany for feedback
- In addition, a presentation of the findings and recommendations at pbi Germany in Hamburg will take place
- The evaluation team is expected to compile the final report in English after feedback for the draft report is given by the different responsible entities through pbi Germany

8. Tentative Period of Work

- Tendering of the evaluation mission in November 2017
- Selection of candidates December 2017
- Preparation phase in January/February 2018
- Field phase in February/March 2018
- Presentation in Hamburg and final report at latest until second week of April 2018

9. Professional qualifications

We would like to contract an evaluator/evaluation team with the following expertise:

- Experience with evaluating projects in the sphere of peace and/or human rights work
- Experience in qualitative research methods and the design of evaluation methodology for participatory evaluation processes
- Strong background and/or working experience in human rights work and/or work for the protection of Human Rights Defenders
- Strong background and/or working experience in the topics of capacity development and empowerment
- Good understanding of the Nepali context (especially with regard to Nepal as a post conflict country)
- Sound knowledge of the CPS's impact logic
- Excellent and proven report writing and verbal communication skills in English, Nepali would be an asset
- Experience with evaluating CPS projects would be an asset
- Knowledge of pbi structures and working processes would be an asset

10. Personal skills

- Flexible, creative and innovative
- Excellent analytical skills
- A clear commitment to work with a participatory and empowering approach
- Proven cultural sensitivity, high degree of cross-cultural competence and diversity perspective

11. Application process

Please email your application (CV in English, cover letter and references not exceeding 2MB) including your package proposal (technical, methodological and financial offer including a detailed timeline) and information concerning your availability with the subject "Evaluation NepalMonitor Project" by **6**th **December, 9am** to: kerstin.gollembiewski@pbi-deutschland.de

The budget for the evaluation including travel costs, accommodation etc. should not exceed 10,000 € in total.

Please note that we will not send any acknowledgement of receipt of the documents you have submitted. Only short listed candidates will be contacted.

For questions regarding the project please contact Ms Kerstin Gollembiewski: <u>kerstin.gollembiewski@pbi-deutschland.de</u>

Further information on pbi and our work can be found on our website: <u>https://pbideutschland.de</u>