**TERMS OF REFERENCE**

**Research Expert– STRENGTHENING RESILIENCE MENA II**

**Location:** Lebanon (national level)

**Start date:** 1 June 2020

**Duration:** 04 months

**Programme Background**

The Strengthening Resilience - MENA II (SR2) programme is funded by the European Union and delivered by a consortium led by the British Council. It began with a pilot in 2015 and its current phase will continue until January 2021. It is under implementation in Lebanon, Morocco, Tunisia and Jordan.

Resilience is the ability of individuals and communities to recover, keep going and grow through adversity. Resilient individuals are the “self-starters” who both take advantage of and create opportunities for themselves and others. Resilient communities use their social and political ties to negotiate solutions to the problems they face. The Strengthening Resilience (SR) programme aims to build young people’s resilience – their ability to “survive and thrive” whatever pressures and hazards they confront.

In Lebanon the programme includes two components:

**Component 1:** Supporting the preventing violent extremism unit through advising, building the capacity and supporting the delivery of the National Consultation phase that aims at developing the Action Plan of the National Strategy for Preventing Violent Extremism (PVE) that was ratified in March 2018 and at contributing to the formation of a National PVE Network as well as conducting national youth consultation using as structured consultative and participatory process with Lebanese youth at the age group of (16-23) which is mainly concentrated in high school students at the third year and universities students as well as with youth outside institutions through CSO.

Through this process, targeted youth will be introduced to the key concepts of diversity, active citizenship and good governance via different strategic communications methods.

**Component 2:** involves building individual resilience and sense of citizenship of youth, engaging them in community development and enhancing their role in political participation for the objective of strengthening the resilience of individuals and communities against extremist narratives and reduce the appeal of violent extremist groups through working with Universities and Civil society organisations

**Consultancy Purpose**

The purpose of the consultancy is to design an online research for youth consultations around PVE strategy and ministries by laws. In this way, youth priorities, opinions and insights in regard to PVE will be identified, and a greater connection and engagement will be established between them and main government actors in a structured and systematic way.

The consultant will be expected to work up to a maximum of 60 days for the duration of the contract.

**Deliverables**

The research will have a nationally representative sample (95% confidence rate or higher) of young women and men aged 16-23 years who are residents in Lebanon. A detailed methodology and approach will be developed and data will be analysed and disaggregated to discern those who are recognised Lebanese nationals from those who are not recognised but may have been born or residing in Lebanon for other five years (i.e. Palestinian, Syrian refugees).

We would like the data collection phase to give an emphasis to reaching:

* the harder to reach, marginalized and out-of-education segments of the population;
* the students in secondary schools;
* the students in universities (first 3 years);
* the students in the Technical and Vocational Education institutions.

and to ensure anonymity of respondents.

We would like the data to be representative of and disaggregated (as far as possible) by:

* Age: 16-23 (children 16-18 and young adults 18-23)
* Gender: male / female / other / prefer not to say
* People with: dual nationality / single nationality / stateless
* Education: none / primary school / secondary school / graduation / post-graduation
* Location: rural / urban (by city/governorates)
* Wealth: household income
* Religion / sect
* Ethnicity
* Disability

Researcher(s) are invited to propose a suitable methodology however it is expected the study will include:

* Literature review
* Nationally representative online survey of young people aged 16-23 who are resident in Lebanon
* Analysis of the data with suitable disaggregation techniques for age groups and different residency / nationality status.
* Analysis, conclusions and recommendations.

In order to reach the objectives of this action the service provider is supposed to meet the below timeline:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Output** | **Date** |
| Develop a solid strategy for a quantitative methodology and online tools in order to engage youth in the consultation process | 12 June 2020 |
| Prepare and submit the literature review for the research | 22 June 2020 |
| Designing and building totally secured and customized online surveys in a participatory way with the project stakeholders and in coordination with the PVE unit and the British Council | 29 June 2020 |
| Setting up an analytical machinery to analyse the inputs of the participants | 6 July 2020 |
| Implement the online data collection | 13 July to 31 July 2020 |
| Analyse data and submit 1st report | 14 August 2020 |
| Validate, update and finalize the data analysis report | 26 August 2020 |
| Submit final report | 14 September 2020 |
| Present the research outcomes to the concerned stakeholders in a creative/interactive way | TBA |

The researchers will be expected to fully address matters of research ethics, risks and how to generate strategic insights and results that will drive the engagement between the Lebanese government and the young people of Lebanon on matters related to Preventing Violent Extremism (PVE). The researchers will also be expected to adopt online safety measures and be able to legitimately and successfully conduct and deliver elements of the research (, i.e. the qualitative research) on secure digital channels within Lebanon.

**Skills, knowledge and experience**

|  | **Essential** | **Desirable** | **Assessment stage** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **language** | * Arabic (native or bilingual proficiency) * English (professional working proficiency) |  | **Shortlisting** |
| **skills & knowledge** | * Solid understanding of the Youth and PVE, peace building and/ or social stability * Solid understanding of Youth issues, strategy and context specifically in a fragile and diverse context * Solid knowledge and understanding of Lebanon ministerial by-laws * Demonstrated knowledge in developing online surveys and in providing strategic insights * Demonstrated adaptability, flexibility in working in continuously changing contexts, time management skills, ability to work under pressure and manage conflicting priorities. * Demonstrated experience coordinating with different partners including government stakeholders * Competencies in facilitating qualitative research using web-enabled solutions and digital channels | Understanding of Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) and Child Protection Policy and how it applies in the context of the role. See the British Council’s EDI policy: <https://www.britishcouncil.org/about-us/how-we-work/policies/equality-diversity-inclusion>  https://www.britishcouncil.org/about-us/how-we-work/policies/child-protection | **Shortlisting** |
| **experience** | * Experience in developing and conducting effective youth researches in relation to PVE in diverse and fragile contexts * Demonstrated experience in using online analytics tools |  | **Shortlisting and interview** |

**Location**

The consultant will work from their own premises and using their own equipment and facilities and will visit the British Council only for meetings.

**Governance**

The assignment will be carried out under the overall guidance of British Council in Lebanon based in Beirut and the PVE unit. The consultant will report to the social stability portfolio lead and coordinate with Project managers and PVE unit.

The British Council will own the intellectual property rights of all materials produced during the consultancy.

Expression of Interest must expressly accept the British Council’s minimum Terms and Conditions. If you have any reservations these must be stated at the time of submitting the proposal

**Policies and protocols**

All SR2 Consultants will be required to follow British Council policies, as outlined online at <https://www.britishcouncil.org/about-us/how-we-work/policies>.

**Payment details**

The payment will be processed by an estimate of 30 days after the approval on the supporting documents in addition to the quality of the delivered work (payment details will be highlighted in the contract)

The Consultant will be responsible of his/her declaration, submission and payment of personal income tax if they are registered at the MOF, otherwise will be susceptible to a tax deduction of 7.5%