



Scope of Work

Research Lead for Two Political Economy Assessments (PEA)

Local Governance in Five (5) Regions on Northern Border

Security Dynamics and Actor Mapping in Five (5) Regions on Northern Border

Organizational background

Equal Access International (EAI) is a non-governmental organization (NGO) with U.S. regional offices in Washington, D.C. EAI partners with communities around the world to co-create sustainable solutions utilizing community engagement and participatory media and technology. With funding from bi-laterals, multi-laterals, foundations, and individual donors, EAI has a 17-year track record implementing social change projects and currently operates in Afghanistan, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Kenya, Mali, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, and the Philippines.

Project background

Resilience for Peace (R4P) is a five-year USAID-funded, EAI-implemented, initiative to strengthen community resilience and learning, particularly for women and youth, to counter and prevent violent extremism in Côte d'Ivoire's northern border areas. Working with partners – National Opinion Research Center (NORC), Indigo-Côte d'Ivoire and the University of Bouaké – the project will foster a “CVE ecosystem” by reinforcing community resilience structures, creating civic and economic empowerment opportunities for at-risk border communities, through improvements in natural resource management and government-service delivery and responsiveness. Other activities will educate citizens and foster dialogue networks and townhalls to build whole-of-community trust, increase positive narratives, generate knowledge and learning among local communities on CVE concepts, while economic empowerment and positive youth development approaches will improve their employability.

Description of work to be performed

R4P is recruiting a Research Lead (RL) to oversee two studies in its programming areas to be conducted by a local research firm, to be hired separately. The Research Lead will have the following responsibilities:

- Work with R4P in the selection of the firm and the number of individual researchers.
- Lead the PEA framework development and training sessions to transfer the methodology to the local research firm, including USAID's 'working politically' approach.
- Review the data collection methodology, questionnaire format, list of key informants (and selection criteria) of the research firm, their field deployment planning and calendar, etc.

- Co-develop inception report with research team, including the methodology, guiding questions and sub-questions, list of documents for literature review, initial list of Key Informants for the five target zones, and timeline of activities.
- Run sample interviews at the outset to ensure viability of questionnaire and researcher readiness to conduct KIIs, record excellent notes and transcribe/transfer them electronically to the Research Lead on a daily basis.
- Regularly review deliverables and provide guidance to ensure high-quality note transcription based on standards.
- Develop the synthesis documents with support from the research teams.
- Present key findings and recommendations in internal meetings and briefings with USAID. He/she will be responsible for presenting all methodological aspects of the PEA and the aggregate analysis comparing the findings across the five regions.
- Final report versions in English to be finalized by Research Lead.

Deliverables

Product	Scope	LOE/days
Advise on procurement of local research firm	Review all submissions from local research firms and provide technical feedback to the R4P team to finalize the procurement process.	1
Training session and field preparations	Develop training materials, facilitate two-day training for the local research team and R4P staff, lead development of research tools (questionnaires) and KI lists for each zone, lead real-time practice interviews and note-taking to ensure field readiness of researchers.	5
Pre-departure Inception report	Co-design with local researchers a roadmap of the PEA (i.e., approach, questions, aims) to be studied in the 5 regions; key principles of PEA underpinning the study; description of the data collection methodology including guiding KI questionnaire and sub-questions, list of documents for background review, list of Key Informants per region, timeline of activities, specification of the outputs, communication between the teams to finalize PEA methodology	2
Quality control and coaching input during field research	Participate remotely in team meetings (analysis and planning sessions) during data collection, review meeting/KII transcripts and drafts of analysis, provide specific guidance on the application of the methodology	5
Comments, editing of PEA documents	Review and provide comments to the 2 PEA drafts/iterations. Provide drafting and editing as needed	3
Synthesis documents	Develop and finalize two synthesis documents incorporating data and writing from research teams, including recommendations for future program activities	5
Presentation slide-deck	Facilitate the development of the slide deck and lead in presentation of findings to USAID	1
Guidelines for future application of the PEA	Develop a document with critical guidance and recommendations for the application of the two PEA studies in the project	2
		Total: 24

Requirements

- Advanced degree in Political Science, Law, Development Studies, Public Policy or another related field.
- Over 10 years of experience conducting Political Economy Analysis and how they are used to advance development programming; work demonstrating the use of these tools strongly preferred.
- Experience with USAID or other donor funded projects focused on governance, justice and security reform preferred.
- Demonstrated writing skills through similar PEA research.
- French and English language required. English language writing skills required. Knowledge of Cote d'Ivoire context and CVE preferred.

Application instructions

To apply please send all documents in English:

1. CV
2. A short and sharp cover letter outlining concrete experience leading PEA's under USAID financing
3. Either as attachment, or as a link, at least one PEA that you have lead
4. A list of three references that can comment on your experience leading PEA's
5. Budget:
 - a. This will be a deliverables-based lump sum contract.
 - b. Please budget for 24 days LOE.
 - c. Please budget two (02) return flights to Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire
 - d. Please budget for 15 nights of hotel (10 Abidjan at a rate of 60,000 FCFA and 5 in Korhogo at a rate of 35,000 FCFA).
 - e. Please budget daily per diem at the project rate of 25,000 FCFA / day for travel and in-country days.
 - f. Please include any other costs deemed necessary for the completion of this work.

Submit applications to the following email address: r4p_recrutement@equalaccess.org In the subject line of the email please put "PEA Research Lead".

Deadline for submission of application is no later than **5pm on Thursday November 18, 2021.**

Selected consultant will be required to sign a non-disclosure agreement (NDA) as some documents may contain confidential information (requirement).