



TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR A CONSULTANCY TO UNDERTAKE RESEARCH AND PRODUCE A HANDBOOK DETAILING COMMON CASES INVOLVING YOUTH, THEIR CAUSES, HOW THEY CAN BE AVOIDED

1.0 Introduction

The Human Rights Centre Uganda (HRCU) is a non-profit organization that has operated in Uganda since 2008. HRCU's mandate is to contribute to the protection and promotion of the rights of Human Rights Defenders (HRDs) in Uganda.

HRCU with support from Protestant Agency for Diakonie and Development for Bread for the World is implementing a 3-year project on 'Increasing Access to Justice for the Youth in Kitgum district" March 2022– February 2025. The overall goal of the project is increased realization and enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms among young people.

The project has trained youth HRDs, and supported the existing HRDs to promote and protect the rights of the youth. HRCU has built the capacity of these groups to monitor and document human rights violations among the youth, to utilize justice systems and to monitor the work of duty bearers and any violations.

HRCU has also trained justice actors including those in the informal justice system on the unique challenges faced by youth and how to mainstream unique support mechanisms that will encourage the youth to utilize these systems. HRCU is supporting the maintenance and expansion of justice actors networks and establish a fund and legal team to extend legal aid services to the youth.

The project directly targets at least 75 youth human rights defenders (HRDs). These youth human rights defenders include 40 individuals young HRDs who will undergo mentorship programs on human rights and access to justice by 15 mentors. The project further Supports coalition building and train the 40 HRDs on savings and credit for young HRDs.

The project directly targets 60 Justice, Law and Order Sector (JLOS) officers. These include the resident magistrate, the office of the Resident State Attorney, police officers, prison's warders, probation and social welfare officers and L.C. Court officials.

1.1 Rationale

The youth HRDs experience justice challenges in their day-to-day activities while supporting their fellow youth access justice . It is therefore likely that they know, what they are dealing with or are threatened with incase any one or more found the following situations;

- 1) A disagreement relating to inheritance of property.
- 2) A defilement case affecting a child below eighteen years.
- 3) Gender or domestic violence.
- 4) A land dispute
- 5) A claim of criminal trespass or malicious damage to property.
- 7) Concern about environmental degradation affecting the community and property.
- 8) Injustice or discrimination in courts of law due to corruption.
- 9) Lack of knowledge about the law
- 10) Unexplained delays in the delivery of judgments by

courts. 11) Mistreatment during arrest and in custody by security persons. 12) Land grabbing and eviction. 13) Relationship or marriage breakdown leading to divorce, property sharing and childcare disputes. 14. Assault among others

Whether the situation is due to a lack of knowledge or interest, fear of the unknown, or lack of confidence in the justice system, youth HRDs may be unable to claim their rights, the rights of their communities and to take the right action. As a result, they may be unable to protect themselves and others, and to prevent disputes. It is therefore important that they acquire knowledge about common cases, their causes, how they manifest, the relevant laws and the administration of justice, which will enable them to express, protect, demand and claim their rights, or those of their fellow youth, families or community at large.

It's against this backdrop, that HRCU seeks for a consultant to undertake research and produce a booklet detailing common cases involving youth, their causes, how they can be avoided and a human rights-based approach to extending support to victims and perpetrators. This booklet will be produced and distributed to youth HRDs, justice actors, duty bearers and other beneficiaries.

1.2 The objective of the Handbook

This Handbook will help the youth HRDs and Justice actors in the following ways:

- Understand the common cases involving youth, their causes, how they manifest, how they can be avoided
- Appreciate human rights-based approach to extending support to victims and perpetrators
- Recognize that one has a legal right which can be exercised;
- Understand one's duties and responsibilities so that they can perform them;
- Recognize when a problem, matter or conflict is legal and when, how and where one can get it resolved through using the law;
- Understand how to seek assistance under the law;
- Protect evidence of injustice or violation of a right so that the correct authorities can use it as an exhibit in a court of law;
- Know when, where and how to obtain proper legal assistance;
- Improve confidence in the legal system to provide solutions; and
- Understand the legal and justice process enough to recognize when justice has been served in a case or matter.

1.3 Scope of the handbook

This handbook will provide a summary of the common cases involving youth, their causes, how they manifest, how they can be avoided

It will provide a simple step by step guide for making suitable decisions on matters related to justice and the law.

It will also explain how the justice system works and how it can be accessed in Uganda.

Efforts will be made to simplify youth related legal issues and explain them through real-life examples for a better understanding of different rights and solutions.

The handbook will give guidance on reference material for further reading, including manuals and tools developed by other partner institutions.

This Handbook will also include the feedback and suggestions received from stakeholders' networking forums and engagements over time

1.4 Tasks

The consultant will be required to lead on all the tasks below, in consultation with HRCU

- i) Preparation and Presentation of an inception report
- ii) Managing and implementing the work plan and all related study team activities
- iii) Data collection of both qualitative and quantitative data.
- iv) Preparation of a draft handbook
- v) Discussion with HRCU staff on the draft handbook and address all comments
- vi) Handbook preparation
- vii) Submission of the final handbook

1.5 Methodologies and Approaches

The assignment will follow a highly participatory and consultative process.

The methodology will involve a review of key project documents including the Project proposal, Project log frame and Project work plans to obtain both qualitative and quantitative data.

The approach will be also based on the consultant's personal experience. HRCU is open to innovations and other approaches but specifically to applications that have a combination of mixed approaches for data collection and analysis.

1.6 Consultancy output and Deliverables

- Inception report and a presentation
- Draft handbook
- Power point presentation of the draft handbook presented
- A comprehensive final handbook

1.7 Qualifications and experience

- The consultant should possess qualifications in Law, human rights, Public policy, Development studies or any other relevant field of study.
- Good understanding of human rights defenders' and access to justice issues in Uganda
- Familiar with legal framework in Uganda
- Good analytical skills
- Excellent written and oral communication skills in English

1.8 Fees and costs estimate

The total charge to be paid for the consulting assignment will depend on the consultant's experience and application submitted. Each applicant is expected to quote an estimated cost (in Ugandan shillings) for this particular work.

1. 9 Duration of the assignment

This assignment is scheduled to take not more than 30 days from the date of signing the contract. Refer to the summary below for details;

KEY DELIVERABLE	TIMELINE
Application submission	Within five (5) working days of running the advert
Signing of the contract	Within two (2) days of notice of award of contract
Inception report	Within five (5) days of signing contract
Submission of draft handbook	Fifteen (15) working days after the data collection and field work
Presentations of the draft handbook & validation	Five (5) working days after submission of the draft handbook
Submission of the Handbook	Five (5) working days after receiving HRCU's comments

Interested consultant(s) can send us his or her expression of interest with a CV and a related sample of the similar work by email to info@hrcug.org , Tel: +256 414266186 and copied to snalukwago@hrcug.org and this should not be later than Sunday, 26th November 2023 by 11:59 PM.