



ADA PROJECT 2755-00-2022: "REDUCTION OF CASES OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS AND ABUSES IN SELECTED DISTRICTS IN NORTHERN UGANDA"

CONSULTANCY FOR COMPILATION AND PRODUCTION OF THEMATIC REPORT ON THE SITUATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN NORTHERN UGANDA

TERMS OF REFERENCE

1.0. INTRODUCTION

The Human Rights Centre Uganda (HRCU) is a nongovernmental and non-profit organization that has formed in 2008 with the aim of contributing to a conducive and favourable working environment for promotion and protection of human rights, especially the rights of human rights defenders in Uganda.

With funding support from Austrian Development Agency (ADA), The Human Rights Centre Uganda (HRCU), Uganda Human Rights Commission (UHRC), and African Centre for Treatment and Rehabilitation of Torture Victims (ACTV) are together implementing a two-year project (running from 1st October 2023 to 30th September 2025) titled "**Reduction of cases of human rights violations and abuses in selected districts in Northern Uganda.**" These districts are Lira (Lango sub region), Pader (Acholi sub region), Moroto (Karamoja sub region) and Kampala (central region as the coordinating district).

This is the third phase of projects implemented by the partners, building up on two previous interventions. The first phase (2014-2017) and the second phase (June 2018 to June 2021) aimed at promoting human rights awareness and understanding in order to improve the access to and delivery of justice in the Eastern region of Uganda in the districts of Soroti, Tororo, Mbale and Jinja and later in the Central districts of Kampala, Wakiso, Mukono and Gulu in Northern Uganda achieving a marked positive effect on the relationship between district law enforcement agencies, civil society and the public.

The overall goal of this current project is reduction in cases of human rights violations and abuses in selected districts in Northern Uganda. The overall project objective is to enhance human rights awareness for improved access to justice in Northern Uganda.

The expected results of the project are to enhance capacity of access to justice actors, duty bearers and human rights defenders (HRDs) to apply human rights standards in the implementation of Prevention and Prohibition of



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Torture Act, the Human Rights Enforcement Act and Public order management, enforcement and implementation; Increased awareness among community members including women and men of the human rights standards to be respected and protected under the Prevention and Prohibition of Torture Act, the Human Rights (Enforcement) Act, and public order management generally and knowledge creation, dissemination and networking amongst human rights actors.

A total of 5,482 (2,349F/3,133M) direct beneficiaries will be targeted in the course of the project. From the above overall total of direct beneficiaries, 1,322 (661F/661M) will be duty bearers and 4,160 will be rights holders. A total of 394,450 (179,725 F/179,725M) are the anticipated indirect beneficiaries of the project.

The project will target members of the public, law enforcement officers, Access to justice implementing agencies, human rights defenders at local level and local government officials in the project districts of Lira, Pader, Moroto and Kampala.

The direct beneficiaries include: Police, Prisons and Uganda Peoples' Defence Forces (high, middle and lower ranking officers), Magistrates, Judges, Registrars, Officers from the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (State Attorneys), Advocates, Local Government Officers (Chief Administrative Officers, Resident District Commissioners, District Community Development Officers), Youth, Human Rights Defenders, journalists, women, indigenous groups, community members including the elderly, children, persons with disabilities, among others.

A total of 359,450 (179,725 F/179,725M) are the anticipated indirect beneficiaries of the project and these include all the listeners outside the project district with radios who will be tuned in and listening to the project's radio talk shows and radio programmes and those who have subscribed and follow the Human Rights Centre Uganda's social media Pages like X (formerly Twitter), Facebook and YouTube.



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2.0. RATIONALE FOR THE CONSULTANCY

Northern Uganda has a rich and complex cultural heritage shaped by its diverse ethnic groups and historical experiences. The region has faced significant turmoil due to conflicts, particularly the insurgency led by the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA). The development of the thematic report will explore how these conflicts have affected cultural practices and human rights. The report will provide an in-depth examination of how cultural practices, traditions, and beliefs impact human rights within the region. This will include understanding the role of traditional/cultural leaders, customary laws, and cultural norms in both supporting and challenging human rights.

The development of a thematic report is intended to examine the intersection of culture and human rights particularly, how certain cultural practices have either contributed to or mitigated human rights violations. For instance, how practices related to gender roles, marriage, or land ownership have impacted issues such as gender equality, child rights, and access to justice. The report will analyze specific cases and suggest ways to address conflicts between traditional practices and human rights standards.

The report will further provide valuable insights for policymakers, NGOs, and human rights advocates working in Northern Uganda. By understanding the cultural context, such that these stakeholders can develop more culturally sensitive policies and interventions that respect local traditions while promoting human rights. It will also serve as a tool for advocacy, helping to align international human rights standards with local cultural practices.

3.0. SCOPE OF WORK AND KEY TASKS, OUTPUTS AND DELIVERABLES

The consultancy shall cover the following:

1. The consultant, upon receipt of the Terms of Reference shall submit an application/expression of interest (EOI), Technical and Financial proposal to HRCU in relation to the call for applications.
2. Following the review and selection process by HRCU and communication, the successful candidate shall undertake the following tasks:
3. An assessment of the general human rights situation in Northern Uganda with a focus on the selected districts of Lira, Pader and Moroto.



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4. Review of past reports regarding activities conducted by HRCU under the current project in the selected districts to get information on the issues that arose from the duty bearers and human rights defenders in the districts.
5. Explore and conduct research on how culture and traditional practices, norms and beliefs influence the attainment of human rights and access to justice in Northern Uganda and how they contribute to increase or reduction of human rights violations and abuses in Northern Uganda.
6. Compile and share a draft report of the findings of the research or study in relation to how culture and traditional practices, norms and beliefs influence the attainment of human rights and access to justice in Northern Uganda and how they contribute to increase or reduction of human rights violations and abuses in Northern Uganda.
7. Lead HRCU staff and other selected stakeholders through the review of the draft report at a validation meeting that shall be organised by HRCU.
8. Incorporate all the responses and feedback received from/at the validation meeting into the draft report.
9. Share a final report with all comments and feedback incorporated or addressed.
10. Prepare and submit to HRCU a soft copy and two hard copies of the final report of the study/research.

4.0. METHODOLOGY AND APPROACH

- The consultant shall use a well-structured methodology to ensure comprehensive and accurate findings.
- These will include among others Literature review to gain an understanding of existing research, policies, and discussions related to culture and human rights in Northern Uganda. Review of policy documents, legal frameworks, and historical records related to human rights and cultural practices. Analysis of relevant case studies from Northern Uganda to understand how cultural practices have influenced human rights outcomes.
- Data collection using both Qualitative Methods: semi-structured interviews with key informants, Focus Groups and quantitative: Surveys.
- The consultant will use the most appropriate approach based on the his/her personal experiences in dealing with similar assignments.
- HRCU is open to innovation and other approaches but specifically approaches leading to the effective execution of the assignment.



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Throughout the methodology, the consultant will ensure ethical considerations are adhered to.

7.0. QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

- The applicant should possess appropriate technical, professional, academic and working experience in relevant fields of Human Rights, Research, Monitoring, Documentation and Evaluation, Public Policy, among others.
- The applicant must have proven experience and background in completing similar assignments or tasks within the required timeframe.
- Excellent written and oral communication skills in English

8.0. FEES AND COSTS ESTIMATE

- The total fees to be paid for the assignment shall depend on the consultant's experience and application submitted.
- Each applicant is expected to quote an estimated cost in Uganda Shillings for this particular assignment.

9.0. DURATION OF THE ASSIGNMENT

The thematic research or study shall be conducted over a period of thirty (30) days from the time of signing the contract to undertake the assignment.

10.0. APPLICATION PROCESS

Interested applicant(s) should send their expression of interest in undertaking the assignment and a detailed technical and financial proposals (in Ugandan shillings) with a copy of the current CV and similar work/report to snalukwago@hrcug.org and copied to info@hrcug.org not be later than **Friday 16th August 2024 at 5:00pm.**