

AFRICAN UNION

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Terms of Reference

for

**CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR THE INTERFAITH
DIALOGUE ON VIOLENT EXTREMISM (IDOVE) WEB
DEVELOPER CONSULTANT**

AUC/CIDO/C/003

September 2019

1. Background

The African Union Citizens and Diaspora Directorate (AUC-CIDO) and the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH have partnered for the creation of the “Interfaith Dialogue on Violent Extremism” (iDove) with the aim to provide an innovative youthful approach to the Prevention of Violent Extremism (PVE) by drawing on the soft power of religion. iDove is based on the belief that violent extremism is a global issue, which impacts African and European societies in similar ways. iDove

iDove brings together the highest caliber of youth from a variety of backgrounds including policy makers, creative artists, and academicians and religious leaders to come up with innovative strategies to tackle violent extremism and build social cohesion. To date, iDove counts 68 members from 38 countries all over Africa and Europe. Most iDovers only physically met in the context of one of the 3-day Intercontinental Youth Forums. In the framework of these conferences, they had the chance to speak about their experiences, exchange ideas with their peers and learn about new perspectives on the issue of PVE. Beyond the forums however, communication and exchange has been largely left to the participants’ own initiative. To date, iDove does not have a unified platform to keep iDovers engaged with one another.

There are *two main reasons* why exchange and communication among iDove participants is worth promoting further:

Firstly, violent extremism and youth radicalization threaten security and development globally, thus calling for a global response. Though push and pull factors vary between contexts and radicalization of individuals and groups may take numerous forms, radicalization dynamics have been strikingly similar across communities and regions. It is thus imperative for youth engaged in PVE to exchange insights with one another and thereby collect ideas for innovative approaches fitted to their community contexts.

Secondly, since its inception, exchange of ideas and intercontinental collaboration emerged as distinguishing features of the iDove initiative, which are much celebrated by its participants. In a survey conducted among all iDovers in April 2018, over 50% of the respondents indicated that their key take-away of participating in iDove was learning from other participants. Moreover, about 90% of the respondents said that they wished for sustained engagement and continuous knowledge and skills-sharing in the future.

2. Objectives

Due to the spread-out nature and continuously increasing size of the iDove community, it does not seem practical for regular exchange to take the form of physical encounters only. Not to mention, that such endeavours are quite undesirable from an environmental standpoint. Therefore, using digital means of communication and encounter to supplement physical meetings, workshops or similar would help iDove to engage its participants and advance its cause in a sustainable and efficient manner. This concept note proposes four measures to that effect: (1) developing of a communication and information platform for all iDove participants (2) providing online education & exchange programs & trainings (3) setting up an independent iDove website

3. Scope of the assignment

Create a platform for iDovers to exchange ideas, chat, learn from one another, develop joint projects and share existing project ideas

Development of the iDove website and iDove admin portal for iDovers to create and access profiles and communicate

Engage and empower young activists in PVE to create innovative PVE approaches through skillsdevelopment and personal exchange.

Enhance the publicity of iDove and spread the initiative's message, approach & objectives and feature key info graphics and details on iDove achievements.

Manage the online profiles, design and content of the website and admin portal
Encourage discussion and the development of joint projects amongst the iDovers.

Create a mobile application to accompany the online website accessible only to iDovers.

Collaborate with the AU- DIC department on the platform to ensure integration within existing AU guidelines.

Create a final hosting space for the platform (ideally within the AU infrastructure)

4. Deliverables / Reports and Schedules

The following are the expected outputs that must be produced:

1. Create a domain for iDove such as www.idove.au.int and manage its development
 - a. create an interactive online website (accessible to everyone) that will feature;
 - iDove's vision, work, infographics and any other relevant information in an interactive way
 - iDove admin portal that allows admin to login and manage all actions that pertain to the administrator
 - iDover digital platform that will allow iDovers to manage profiles, interact with other iDovers through a individual chats and chat groups, access relevant resources, share project ideas
 - Allow for analytics, infographics and export of these features for M&E purposes
 - Other features may be defined during the process of development
 - b. Develop at least 2 prototype samples of the website, in which 1 will be selected. Samples to be shared with the partners for further feedback
Allow for at least 2 revisions
 - c. Update the website to meet modern web standards and data protection regulations as required
2. Create a mobile application (exclusive to iDovers)
 - a. a. Mirror the online website with more user-friendly uses through the mobile interface.
 - b. b. Ensure offline usability- allow iDovers to create content, access some resources

5. Duration of Assignment

The Consultant will be expected to work within a period of 6 months from October 2019- March 2020

6. Consultancy Fee

The African Union shall pay the consultant a fixed sum not exceeding USD\$36,000.00. This amount includes all the consultant's fees, profit, any tax obligation that may be imposed on the consultant and reimbursable costs. The reimbursable could include travel tickets and DSA to Addis Ababa for at least two trips related to the inception phase of the assignment and verification phase of the final reports / deliverables.

The total amount for the consultancy US\$36,000.00 based on the following calculation:

25% Create a domain for iDove such as www.idove.au.int and manage its development

25%: create an interactive online website

- 25%: Update the website to and include content, meet modern web standards and data protection regulations as required
- 25%: Create a mobile application

7. Governance and Support by the African Union

The African Union is respectfully expected to

1. Provide office for the consultant during the time of his duties
2. Pay the Consultant his/her consulting fee after completion of consultancy.

8. Qualification and Experience of Consultant

The consultant should meet the following requirements:

Qualifications and skills

- BSc in Computer Science, Information Technology, Web Programming and Development or any similar field
- Qualifications in user experience web design and building *
Advantageous additional experience in software development and app development
- Demonstrated experience thorough background in programming (Drupal, PHP, SQL, JavaScript, CSS, C, C++ and C#, MyAdmin, JSON, API's and HTML5)
- Essential web development in PHP, CSS, HTML5 PHP, WordPress
- HTML coding, FrontPage design and other tasks supporting Windows based servers as well as system documentation, analyzing and troubleshooting system anomalies, and ensuring optimal information system performance
- Good understanding of SEO

Specific Professional experience

- Minimum 5 years continuous experience in web programming, web design and website management
- Experience with various analytic tools like Google Analytics
- Strong graphic design experience
- Competency using design software like Photoshop and Illustrator will be an added advantage

9. Evaluation and Qualification criteria

The African Union Commission now invites eligible **Individual Consultants** to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested candidate must provide information demonstrating that he/she has the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services.

For evaluation of the expressions of interest the following criteria will be applied:

- a) General Education Qualification (15 points)
- b) Experience Related to the Assignment (55 points);
- c) Technical approach and methodology (20 points)
- d) Work plan (10 points)

Interested candidates are requested to submit the following documents for AUC's consideration as an attachment to the CVs:

- a) Technical Proposal on:
 - understanding and interpretation of the TOR
 - methodology to be used in undertaking the assignment
 - time and activity schedule
- b) Financial proposal, **FIXED RATE = US\$36,000.00**

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours 8:00-13:00hrs and 14:00-17:00 hours Local Time.

Proposal must be delivered in a written form to the address below not later than 15:00 hours local time, **15th October 2019**

**African Union Commission,
Head of Procurement Travel and Store Division
Building C, Room 327
P.O. Box 3243, Roosevelt Street
OR
Tender@africa-union.org**