TERMS OF REFERENCE

FOR A CONSULTANCY TO DOCUMENT AND ANALYZE COMMUNITY DRIVEN DEVELOPMENT AND SOCIAL COHESION INTERVENTION SELECTION AND DESIGN for the SOCIAL COHESION THROUGH COMMUNITY DRIVEN DEVELOPMENT IN KYRGYZ REPUBLIC PROJECT

The Aga Khan Foundation U.S.A. (AKF USA) in collaboration with the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) and the University of Central Asia (UCA) are engaged in a project funded by the World Bank’s State and Peace-Building Fund and implemented in Kyrgyzstan titled “Social Cohesion through Community-Driven Development”.

Community-driven development is often advanced as a way to promote social cohesion and build social capital in fragile or post-conflict environments. However, there is a lack of evidence on the relationship between social cohesion/social capital and community-driven development (CDD). This project seeks to pilot innovative intervention approaches to promote social cohesion through community-driven development projects and through research, analysis and monitoring, track the impact of tested interventions on social cohesion.

The Social Cohesion through Community-based Development project will:

(i) Identify potentially successful approaches to promote social cohesion in community driven development;
(ii) Pilot such approaches through community-driven social mobilization and investment micro-projects;
(iii) Rigorously track the effectiveness of such approaches through an evidence-driven monitoring and evaluation framework; and
(iv) Strengthen Kyrgyz research and operational capacities to support future integration of social cohesion approaches into development projects.

By first researching sources for convergence or social cohesion in Kyrgyz society, and then subsequently integrating these approaches into the social mobilization, selection, and implementation of community infrastructure micro-projects, the project will pilot new approaches for the integration of social cohesion into the design, delivery, and monitoring of community driven development projects. The project’s core focus on community level institutions and civil society is expected to provide valuable insights for Kyrgyzstan on how best to strengthen a sense of citizenship, improve the state-society relationship, and enhance inter-group social relations.

Throughout the first year of this project, AKF and its partners undertook a broad range of primary and secondary research activities to determine existing models of CDD and social cohesion interventions used in the Kyrgyz Republic. The project team has also identified potential intervention models that could be piloted by the project, based on this research study.

Before finalizing the CDD interventions to pilot under this project, AKF is looking to contract a consultant who, through structured interviews and desk research, will document the research process used on the project, provide analysis on existing global best practices from existing knowledge and expertise, and finalize the design of selected CDD interventions.
Terms of Reference

Working collaboratively as needed with project stakeholders including AKF USA, AKF Kyrgyzstan, Mountain Societies Development Support Program (MSDSP), SIPRI, UCA, and the World Bank, the consultant undertaking this work will develop a 25 max page report and executive summary that will:

1) Document the research process used by the project team to identify and consider potential intervention models in Kyrgyzstan;
2) Provide additional contextual analysis on best practice and lessons learned from global best practice around CDD and social cohesion interventions, as relevant to the project; and
3) Articulate the design and proposed implementation of the project’s selected two pilot CDD models.

Scope, Design and Methodology

This consultancy will utilize desk research of project documents, structured interviews with project stakeholders, and utilization of existing CDD and social cohesion knowledge in order to:

1) Review all research conducted on potential approaches to social cohesion interventions.
2) Conduct structured phone interviews with a maximum of 10 project stakeholders to be determined by AKF USA and/or World Bank in Washington DC and Kyrgyzstan about the research process to date to identify possible social cohesion intervention approaches, and the pilot interventions selection process.
3) In consultation with project stakeholders, produce a 25 page maximum report plus executive summary (max 4 pages)- synthesizing and describing:
   a) Existing participatory development approach used by AKF in Kyrgyzstan;
   b) Research process used by project team to learn from and analyze past relevant approaches in Kyrgyzstan;
   c) Insert additional reference to global best practice in community driven development and social cohesion, due to existing knowledge and experience, that informs the selection of interventions under the project;
   d) Select 2 proposed pilot interventions for Year 2 of the project;
   e) Outline planned next steps for implementation of the selection pilot interventions under the project.
   f) Provide recommendations, as relevant, on tools such as the project tracking system and end-line survey for qualitative and quantitative measurement of project results
4) Present findings to project team, via PowerPoint presentations and virtual meeting with project Steering Committee

As needed, this consultant may also support AKF in final design and training of staff to begin implementation of pilot interventions in Year 2 of the project.

Tentative Timeline and Deliverables

<p>| By Feb 28, 2015 | Finalize interview schedule and review project documents |
| By March 15, 2015 | Share draft report with AKF USA for review and commenting by |</p>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>By March 30, 2015</td>
<td>Submit final report and executive summary</td>
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<tr>
<td>By April 15, 2015</td>
<td>Hold virtual training with project staff to present findings and intervention design</td>
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**Budget**

A budget of $30,000 is available for this consultancy, to be paid based on successful delivery of the listed consultancy deliverables.

**Qualifications and Competencies**

The consultant should be able to provide additional contextual background on community driven development and social cohesion, both as additional research for the report and as support for selected pilot interventions on the project. Therefore, significant experience in both social cohesion and community driven development is required.

Additional qualifications include:

- Advanced university degree in relevant field
- Demonstrated experience working with World Bank funded or related community driven development, social cohesion, and/or participatory governance projects
- Strong interpersonal and organizational skills
- Verbal and written fluency in English; fluency in Russian or Kyrgyz an asset
- Experience with CDD intervention design, evaluation, and/or implementation, ideally on World Bank funded projects
- Experience producing written reports and evaluations of international development projects

**Application Procedure**

Please submit a letter of interest, CV, three references, and estimated budget to civilsociety.akfusa@akdn.org by February 13, 2015.

**Selection and Contractual Procedure**

Selection of this consultancy will be based on individual qualifications, experience, and capability to complete the expected assignment. The expected consultancy contract with AKF for this project will be a lump-sum, deliverables based contract.