Terms of Reverence

**Project name**: UNDP CO

**Post title:** Consultancy to support assessment of UNDP programme interventions – Dialogue Support Platform (**Impact** **Evaluation Advisor**)

**Country / Duty Station**: Home-based with travel to Ukraine

**Expected places of travel (if applicable)**: Kyiv, Ukraine (one trip of 5 working days to be included to the price proposal)

**Starting date of assignment**: 13 June 2016

**Duration of assignment**: 14 working days (13 June 2016 – 10 July 2016)

**Supervisor’s name and functional post**: UNDP Deputy Country Director/ Programme

**Payment arrangements**: Fee will be released base of submitted deliverables

**Administrative arrangements:** The contractor will have to arrange his/her workplace, logistics and equipment.

**Evaluation method**: Desk review (validation interview could be conducted during

Evaluation of the proposals received)

1. **BACKGROUND**

The consequences of the conflict in Ukraine are vast, and reach far beyond its borders. The European Union, the United States, NATO and Russia have returned to a level of tension unseen in the XXI Century, with recurring accusations from both sides for the instability in Ukraine. Within Ukraine, the profound divisions feeding the conflict remain unresolved, while indigenous and international initiatives for peace and dialogue struggle to counter the growing violence and war rhetoric. At the same time, an ambitious but difficult reform agenda and dire socio-economic situation within Ukraine have placed additional stress on society, which is becoming increasingly polarized over a number of issues. While numerous initiatives within Ukraine seek to address and mitigate the various causes of conflict through dialogue, these are for the most part isolated and ad hoc in nature. There is a clear need for a nation-wide dialogue process, but the current environment is not conducive to large-scale peacebuilding efforts while the crisis is ongoing.

The Dialogue Support Platform Ukraine (DSPU) project was launched to prepare a critical foundation for nation-wide dialogue by identifying the main issues affecting the population at a local, regional and national level, and creating a network of peacebuilding practitioners. The project aimed to allow for a horizontal and vertical communication at all levels of society, beginning at a local community level and reaching to the policy-making level. Such a platform would contribute to the creation of a sustainable peace in Ukraine by:

• Developing a comprehensive mapping of dialogue initiatives and facilitators across Ukraine;

• Helping local dialogue facilitators to connect with one another to assess their own capacities, exchange information and coordinate respective initiatives and efforts. At the same time, this will also help dialogue facilitators to connect with the regional and central government actors, as well as the international community, with a view to informing policy for greater impact;

• Capturing the information from different dialogue initiatives in a comprehensive but accessible format so that national and international actors can hear the voices of Ukrainian stakeholders from all regions; and

• Supporting structured thinking about future scenarios to ensure informed, inclusive and conflict

The goal of the project is to generate positive thinking to help transform the conflict that has affected Ukraine since 2013, utilising modern technologies and dialogue expertise. The project connects Ukrainian dialogue experts with people at all levels of society, allowing for horizontal dialogue, and fostering exchange with the policy level and the international community. Ultimately, the platform helps define options for regional engagement, reform, and a way forward. The project has been called the ‘facilitator of facilitators’ for its role in exploring a common understanding of dialogue and fostering cooperation, and has been acknowledged by Ukrainian dialogue practitioners as a useful tool for the development of their practice. The broader view of the project relates to how dialogue can help deal with the consequences of the armed conflict in the East and the many internal challenges facing Ukrainian authorities and civil society.

UNDP Ukraine is intend to conduct an external (an independent) review to evaluate what project’s achievements and impact to identify the entry points for continuation, if recommended. Scope of work of this impact evaluation depends on targets set in the project documents of DSPU and methodology to be used to capture the intended impact. Broadly it should cover following key areas of post-result:

• To measure the impact of DPSU on the lives of people in the targeted regions, on the communication at all levels of society

• To assess intended and unintended results of the project both at beneficiary level and beyond;

• To assess which approaches, interventions and activities have proven to be most effective and why;

• To assess the extent to which the project has achieved value for money

• Make recommendations of if/how the DSP could be further integrated into UNDP Ukraine programme

The consultant will work under the direct supervision of UNDP Deputy Country Director/Programme and in close collaboration with the programme and projects.

1. **MAIN OBJECTIVES OF THE ASSIGNMENT**

The purpose of this Impact evaluation is to assess whether and to what extent the planned results have been or are being achieved. Specifically, the project evaluation will assist UNDP in gaining a better understanding of the following aspects of its interventions:

1. Estimate the increase in availability of updated database of conflict issues and actors and efforts
2. Estimate the impact of horizontal exchanges between Ukrainian dialogue facilitators, between dialogue facilitators and policy-makers, and between Ukrainians and international peacebuilding experts on promoting and strengthening the culture of dialogue in Ukraine
3. Estimate the impact on the ability of Ukrainian dialogue actors to connect with each other and with national actors and the international community as a result of the DSP.
4. Identify complementarities arising from the work of the DSP and broader UNDP Recovery and Peacebuilding Programme objectives, and if or how these could be better utilized to better support UNDP’s programmatic outcomes
5. Develop recommendations for future Programme, including identifying possible entry points, approaches, partners - based on the tested approaches and techniques

Annex 2: Skype Interviews (Juba Time)

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|  | 08 – 09.00 | 10 – 11.00 | 11 – 12.00 | 14 – 15.00 | 15 – 16.00 | 16 – 17.00 |
| 29 June | Alex Azarov,Oleksa Stasevych, in-country project assistant | Vladyslava Kanevska [National Assosciation of Mediators in Ukraine] | Miguel Varela [Mediateur] | Roman Koval, Institute for Peace and Common Ground | Stan Veitsman, Terese Svensson (UNDP) | Olena Kashkarova [Dialogue Facilitation] |

Annex 3: Reconstructed Logframe

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|  | Project Narrative | Objectively Verifiable Indicators | Means of Verification | Assumptions[[1]](#footnote-1) |
| Goal | Ukrainian dialogue actors connect with each other, with national actors and the international community utilising interactive, modern dialogue technologies. | Increased engagement between actors within the regions and between regions and international actors | Platform used for dialogue and debate; number of in-country meetings held and total number of participants | Networking between dialogue activists improves prospect for conflict-reducing engagement through fostering a dialogue culture and understanding of conflicts |
| Purpose | Enable Ukrainian dialogue actors to better understand their needs and capacities | Dialogue between regions increases; needs and issues identified | Platform mapping and debate | Access to increased capacity will improve quality and effectiveness of engagement |
| Outputs | * A group of Ukrainian dialogue facilitators from all regions in Ukraine convened. * An online platform to host different innovative methodologies for dialogue (including a mapping utilising Debategraph methodology) offering Ukrainian facilitators a real and virtual space for sharing, mapping, commentary, education and discussion. * Results from the Dialogue Analysis and Coordination (DAC) Meetings captured in written and visual formats, keeping an updated database of conflict issues and actors and peace efforts, and extending it with analysis and commentary. * The platform acts as a reference point and tool for a dialogue process to support the thinking process | Group convened and meets in person and online  Platform exists and is used  DAC meetings  Platform content informs dialogue | Platform debate  Platform content  DAC meetings’ content; database utilised; Quality of analysis (e.g. utilisation in policy and academic analysis)  Dialogue/discussions content | Online engagement contributes to peace building and conflict mitigation |
| Activities | Platform established  Ukrainian facilitators trained in the platform methodology.   * Horizontal exchange between Ukrainian facilitators and stakeholders, between facilitators and policy-makers, and between Ukrainians and internationals generated. * Regular Dialogue Analysis and Coordination (DAC) Meetings with the group of facilitators at the donor’s headquarters, to engage in a conflict and dialogue effort analysis. | Platform exists and is used  Training; Platform used  Platform used for exchanges  DAC meetings | Platform exists and is used  Training content, Platform use improves over time  Content and use of platform  Content of meetings |  |

Annex 4: DPSU Meetings

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| Date | Location | Participants (M/F) | Organisations | Discussion content | Next Mtg Agenda | Platform status reported |
| 14-5/7/15 | Kyiv | 10 men; 12 women | 14 (9 Kyiv) | 1. Mapping of initiatives for dialogue; 2. Meaning of dialogue; 3. Conflict issues being addressed; 4. Challenges of dialogue; 5. Potential for the platform; 6. UNDP's role; 7. Next steps | Preparation for end-September official launch | Testing |
| 28-9/9/15 | Kyiv | 10 men; 13 women | | 1. Meaning of dialogue; 2. Maximising resources and ddressing participation; 3. Conflict triggers and dialogue themes; 4. Next steps and conclusions - taking dialogue forward | Promoting communication exchange and cooperation between facilitatirs; Exploring the meaning of dialogue to establish common principles and aims; Discussion to evaluate effects of dialogue on conflict in Ukraine; Conflict sensitive approach in dialogue and the political agenda; Relationship in detail between safety and trust building; Experience exchange and approach to dialogue preparation and organisation | Map web page reported |
| 8/12/15 | Kyiv | 14 men; 14 women | | 1. Practitioners reflect on work; 2. Exploration of current issues and chance for dialogue in Ukraine; 3. Working Groups within platform to pursuer specific issues and challenges identified to date | Promoting and providing capacity building (conflict sensitive workshop by UNDP); Developing a dialogue culture - bottom up (World café discussions); Dialogue mapping (Upgrade mapping tool; Redesign of data entry systems and online interaction) and online engagement | Maps web page reported |
| 2-4/02/2016 | Lviv | 7 men; 15 women | | 1. Conflict (and gender) sensitivity workshop; 2. Reaffirm DPSU and working methods; 3. Specific ways DPSU platform can contribute to mapping and gather feedback on the programme; 4. Facilitate professional exchange between DPSU practitioners and Lviv dialogue actors (World Cafe); 5. Identify key areas of cooperation and exchange between facilitation actors; 6. Identify key thematic issue areas important to dialogue actors | Continued DPSU team participation in dialogue vents and processes across Ukraine to populate the geographic and thematic mapping - first meetings in Kharkiv and Mykoliav; 3. Collection and analysis of first results from Kharkiv and Mykoliav; 4. Continue discussion of terminology - possibly first task of Methodology Working Group; 5. Thematic mapping based on World Cafe (Lviv) event and results collected from dialogue events to initiate discussion with Conflict Sensitivity and Organisational Working Groups; 6. Collect information on upcoming dialogue events for sharing (initially) on dedicated Facebook page and subsequently on DPSU website; | Launch new iteration of revised platform scheduled for March 2016 |
| 4-6/05/2016 | Kramatorsk, Donbas | No information | | 1. Assessed state of dialogue in government-controlled areas of Donbas; 2. Identify the main issues affecting conflict in Eastern Ukraine and the contribution DPSU can make to resolving them; 3. Continue facilitating professional exchanges between dialogue facilitators; 4. Highlight the dialogue work being carried out in Eastern Ukraine (World Cafe); 6. Explore the main areas of work to be carried out through an enhanced Dialogue Support platform | 1. Further develop he mapping mechanism with a dedicated mapping drawn, in part, from the existing network of dialogue initiatives; 2. Identify avenues of interaction with other dialogue actors on the coordination of dialogue efforts and on capacity building in Ukraine; 3. conduct a July meeting with donors and dialogue actors for a final assessment of achievements and strategic planning for a next phase; 4. Commission an evaluation (i.e. this assessment) and build a proposal for a continuation in the next phase. | Despite the proposed May 2016 launch, no mention made of this; nor on 21 June was the platform active; the message stating that it was under construction |

1. The three assumptions are ‘killer assumptions’ in that if incorrect, they destroy the rationale for the project. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)