



Terms of Reference - Evaluation Consultant

Final Project Evaluation - Promoting Rights-Respecting Approaches to Tackling Disinformation

August 2023

Global Partners Digital is seeking to contract an external evaluation consultant to conduct a final project evaluation of our project grant “Promoting Rights-Respecting Approaches to Tackling Disinformation”.

Background

Global Partners Digital (GPD) is a social purpose company working to ensure that human rights underpin the development, use and governance of digital technologies. We do this by shaping more rights-respecting laws and policies, and helping to build a more diverse policy ecosystem. .

Since 2021, GPD has been implementing a US Department of State (DRL) funded project: *Promoting Rights-Respecting Approaches to Tackling Disinformation*.

The project has the overall **goal** of: Ensuring responses to tackle disinformation in Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) are in line with international human rights standards. It is guided by four strategic objectives:

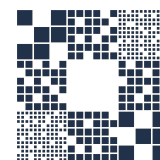
- Objective 1:** To build and maintain an interactive resource for Internet freedom actors to document and analyse legislative and non-legislative actions by governments on disinformation across SSA.
- Objective 2:** To build the capacity of local groups across SSA to engage in local policy debates and discussions on disinformation.
- Objective 3:** To shape the outcomes of regional policy making processes on disinformation to reflect international human rights standards.
- Objective 4:** To shape the outcomes of national policy making processes in target countries (Cameroon, Uganda, Senegal and Zimbabwe) on disinformation to reflect international human rights standards.

The project is coming to an end in December 2023, and GPD is seeking applications from external consultants to conduct a final evaluation of the project’s lifetime.

Deliverables and Final Product

The final project evaluation should include:

- A Final Evaluation Report (15–18 pages) including:
 - Executive summary (1 page)
 - Key lessons learned & recommendations (3–4 pages)
 - Main body report (8–10) pages, including:



- An analysis of impact – positive, negative and unforeseen – related to all four objectives
- Particular attention to:
 - An examination of the **regional advocacy** (Obj. 3) activities of the project (1-2 pages)
 - One in-depth country case study of **national-level advocacy** (Obj. 4) level (1-2 pages).
- A one hour presentation of the key evaluation findings of the report and recommendations (can be in-person or online depending on availability).

Methodology and Working Method

The review methodology should include, but is not necessarily limited to:

- Desk review of I project documentation and quarterly reporting (provided by GPD);
- In-country site visits to a project activity (Most likely engagement regional forum engagement at African Commission for Humans and Peoples rights in the Gambia) ACHPR in the Gambia) and one of the project's target countries (likely Senegal TBC with evaluator once contracted); and
- Interviews with relevant project staff within GPD, Consortium Partners and DRL Grants Officer (approx. 6-8 interviews).

Objectives and Scope of Final Project Evaluation

The main objective of the final evaluation is the assessment of the project's success against its goal and objectives.

The objectives of the final evaluation are:

1. To assess the change and impact brought about by the project and its contribution to the stated goal, objectives and outcomes;
2. To identify key project successes and challenges; and
3. To provide a clear set of lessons learned and recommendations for future work.

In particular, relating to the first objective mentioned above, the final evaluation should adhere to the OECD DAC Criteria and take into account the project's relevance, cohesion, efficiency, effectiveness, sustainability and impact. The assessment of change should include direct or indirect, high level or low level, intended or unintended change.

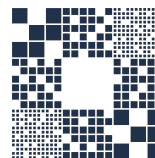
The following questions could be used as a guide:

Relevance, cohesion and efficiency:

- Are the project's underlying assumptions and Theory of Change correct?
- Does the project seek to address a key need in national and regional contexts?
- How adequate has the project management approach and processes been by GPD, including its organisation, communication and reporting?

Effectiveness:

- **Overall:** Did the project implement its planned activities and deliver on its intended outputs?



- **Obj. 1:** How has [LEXOTA](#) enabled actors within and beyond SSA to be better aware of government responses to disinformation and their compliance with international human rights standards? How has LEXOTA become a sustainable resource used in advocacy efforts?
- **Obj. 2:** How has the 'training of trainers' model increased Consortium Partners' own capacity? How effective has this model been in equipping actors in SSA with intended knowledge and skills?
- **Obj. 3:** How has the project contributed to increased strategic coordination by civil society in regional forums and processes? How has it shaped the outcomes of regional processes to be more in line with international human rights standards?
- **Obj. 4:** Assess the level of progress Consortium Partners have made in their advocacy efforts. What were the most effective advocacy methods employed by Consortium Partners that led to change or progress towards change? Which methods were not as effective, but provided useful lessons learned?

Impact and sustainability:

- How has the project – through its objectives and activities – uniquely added value to the local actors, civil society and policymakers in the SSA region and in the broader field?
- Provide an assessment of how key project outputs – LEXOTA and ACHPR resolution – contribute to the project's sustainability and enhance its advocacy work.

Timeline and Schedule

Start Date:	1 October 2023
To be completed by:	31 December 2023
Approximate days of work:	18–20 days

Fee and payment Schedule

The contractor will receive a fixed fee of USD 10,000 (inclusive of VAT). The fixed fee will be paid according to the following payment schedule:

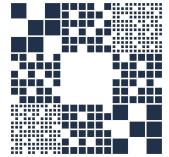
- 50% of the value of the contract upon start of the contract;
- 50% of the value of the contract upon completion of the work.

Expenses related to any travel undertaken for the purpose of this evaluation – including airfare, accommodation, per diems, visas and insurance – will be paid for separately by GPD and are not included in this fixed fee.

Application Process

GPD is seeking solicited applications to conduct the project's final evaluation. Please indicate your interest by emailing Rebecca Zausmer <rebecca@gp-digital.org> and Yasmine Rachidi <yasmine@gp-digital.org> with "Application for Disinfo Evaluation" in the subject line and include:

- CV and/or portfolio of previous relevant work
- Proposed work plan for the evaluation responding to the ToR (no more than 1 page)
- Names and contact details for 2 references from evaluated organisations



The deadline for the applications is 15 September 2023.

Award criteria

The contract will be awarded based on the following criteria:

- Relevant qualifications and experience (30%)
- Strength of the proposed work plan (40%)
- Cost (20%)
- Availability for international travel to two relevant project activities and/or partners.