



Legal Clinic Myanmar

Announcement

TERMS OF REFERENCE

CONSULTANCY SERVICE FOR

“ACTION BASED RESEARCH FOR WOMEN ACCESS TO JUSTICE”

Legal Clinic Myanmar (LCM)

The LCM is a non-profit local non-governmental organization promoting and strengthening rule of law, democracy and human rights in Myanmar not only through the provision of legal awareness and paralegal trainings but also standing for those who are unjustly treated and those whose rights are breached by representing them in courts, providing free legal aid services and social support in cooperation with state-actors and other organizations since 2011.

In line with our vision that every citizen must enjoy their rights endorsed in the law through the enforcement of rule of law, the LCM strives to maintain its status as a rights and justice organization which builds on legal knowledge and capacity of communities and bridging them with both national laws and international norms. In order to seed human rights and democratic culture in Myanmar society, the LCM believes that the first step is to mobilize citizens, equip them with legal knowledge and empower them to combat human rights violations on their own. To this end, the LCM mobilizes grass-roots community and enhances their legal knowledge to the extent that they are able to utilize it to educate their fellow citizens, help them build social capital and strengthen their social networks in defending their rights.

Our goal is to inform every one of their human rights and legal entitlements to be able to claim and protect their rights. In order to achieve this, the LCM in compliance with Myanmar international human rights obligations and national laws promotes citizen's awareness of their rights and breaks the silence of community where rights are violated and unjust treatments persist.



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1. Background and Rationale

LCM is currently providing legal aid services, legal awareness and paralegal trainings in government-controlled areas (GCAs) where Myanmar laws apply. The experience will be used strategically for raising awareness and carrying out advocacy with the decision makers. The core issue that Legal Clinic Myanmar has found through its more than six years of project implementation experience is a lack of public legal awareness across Myanmar. Additionally, traditional gender bias and violence towards women is a significant issue for the nation's development while human rights abuse, especially violation of women's rights, is inherent in many communities and fomented by a lack and/or weak of formal justice system. The increasingly high rates of drug usage in areas such as Kachin further augments the existing risks of gender-based violence. The project focuses on a total of Six townships (Myitkyina, Moe Kaung, Wine Maw, Moe Nyin, Bhamo, Tanai), which are socially, politically and economically excluded in Kachin State. LCM will target both IDP camps and host communities and empower the women to effectively raise their voices. To protect and prevent Violence against Women (VAW), Christian Aid (CA) and Legal Clinic Myanmar (LCM) will conduct action based research focus on physical, mental and domestic violence against women and girls in Kachin and Rakhine State in Myanmar.

2. Research objectives

Main Objective

To identify mechanisms that will improve access to justice for women.

Specific Objectives

- 1) To document gender sensitive issues in the communities.
- 2) To identify threats, challenges, limitations and shortfalls in providing access to justice for violence against women issues which are supported by LCM.
- 3) To recommend future activities for better results in providing access to justice.

3. Research Question

- 1) What are the prevailing GBV issues in target communities?



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- 2) Communities' perception on GBV issues based on their culture, religion and believes?
- 3) What are the challenges or opportunities for women in accessing justice on violence against women issues in the communities?
- 4) What are the challenges and or opportunities within the justice system for women in accessing justice on violence against women issues?
- 5) What are the recommendations in promoting access to justice and violence against women?

4. Methods

The research will use both qualitative and quantitative research methods. Tools for qualitative research will be Focus Group Discussions (FGD), Key Informant Interviews, individual In-Depth Interviews (IDI) and case studies. Secondary data from the project on online consultations, mediation and litigation supports will be used to for quantitative data analysis. Detailed research methodology and sampling will be discussed and finalized with the consultant.

Research Method	Reason for choosing this method	Research Question
Desk review of documents, reports and existing laws and policies	Review of relevant project related documents, record of cases from online consultation, mediation and litigation and analyze in relation to existing laws and policies	RQ 1
In-Depth Interviews (IDI) with beneficiaries such as paralegal, survivors, family members and a non-	This is to understand the perception of the communities including the survivors on prevailing GBV issues and responding them.	RQ 2, 3, 4



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beneficiary from the community		
Key Informant Interviews with Lawyers, local authorities, LCM staff	This is to understand the perception of the key informants in responding to GBV issues, how they understand the laws and policies are supporting or putting barriers for the survivors.	RQ 3,4
Focus group discussion with paralegals, community members, and Lawyers (if lawyers are not possible, we can skip)?	This is to understand the cultures within the communities on GBV issues and the perception of legal aid workers in responding these.	RQ 2,3,4
Case Studies with beneficiaries (survivors/ paralegals/ lawyers)	This is to document lessons learned throughout the process of legal assistance whether positive or negative and to suggest recommendations.	RQ 3, 5

5. Expected Outputs

A document which identifies GBV issues, challenges and opportunities in responding these and mechanisms that will improve access to justice for women will be completed.. This document will be developed both in English and Myanmar Language. The design and contents of the document will be developed by the consultant in consultation with Christian Aid and Legal Clinic Myanmar. Findings will be shared via email and presented to the Partner staff and the Township/District level Government Departments in a meeting.



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6. Management

The Consultant will be accountable to Legal Clinic Myanmar and Christian Aid. A timetable of planning and progress meetings will be mutually agreed at the beginning of consultancy period. Approvals at key stages must be obtained by the Consultant from the LCM and CA.

1. Completion of the desk review
2. Completion of data collection tools/ guidelines, etc.
3. Completion of data collection
4. Submission of the first draft of report
5. Submission of final best practices document

7. Consultant Expertise

Interested candidates will have to demonstrate capacity and experience in research indicating that they are qualified to provide this service. Candidates will have an in-depth knowledge of gender-based violence issues in Myanmar and management of these issues, and , ideally in Legal Aid. Knowledge of Kachin and Rakhine State context and Legal/Gender Programs in Myanmar is desired.

- Experience of working on gender programs in Myanmar
- Proven experience of conducting research/assessments
- Proven conceptual, analytical and writing skills
- Excellent written English and Myanmar desirable

Qualifications for the service provider

- Minimum 5 years' experience with leading role in program/project implementation in Myanmar and monitoring, evaluation and learning process.
- Ensure to specialize experience in Research program.
- Facilitation, data collection, analysis and management skills.
- Familiarity working in the context of Rule of Law and Human Rights with preferred knowledge and experience in the field of Gender-based violence and women protection work in Myanmar.
- Strong report-writing skills in English.
- Communication skills in both Myanmar and English languages.



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We would like an expression of interest, a proposed statement for the research plan (including methodology, approach and implementation plan) and a budget proposal from the application for this consultancy along with the resume of the lead applicant, previous evaluation work if possible, by **22nd October, 2019 (Tuesday)** to lcm.recruitment.2017@gmail.com

Only Selected candidates will be contacted;

This position is urgently needed, so we will recruit process before dead line.

For more information about Legal Clinic Myanmar and our work please visit to <http://www.legalclinicmyanmar.org> and www.facebook.com/LegalClinicMyanmar