

ASEAN-AUSTRALIA COUNTER TRAFFICKING

Terms of Reference

Media Study Consultant

Deadline for applications

5PM Bangkok time, 20 May
2022

Position

Media Study Consultant

Duration

60 days input over 4 months
(June - September 2022)

Remuneration

B3, DFAT ARF

Reports to Communications
& Knowledge Management
Director

Location

Home-base/remote

Performance Management and Reporting Framework

DFAT Adviser Performance
Assessment and relevant
program reporting framework

Contact details

Queries relating to this
position should be directed to
recruitment@aseanact.org

It is essential that you quote
'Media Study Consultant' in
your e-mail title, or you may
not receive a response.

About the Organisation

Cardno is a global consulting organisation that manages projects for major donors, delivering aid work in various disciplines such as education, health, governance, resource and environment management and infrastructure. Our work expands across Europe, Latin and North America, Asia, the Pacific and Africa. With over 6,000 staff worldwide, our vision is to be a world leader in the provision of professional services to improve the physical and social environment.

About the Program

ASEAN–Australia Counter Trafficking (ASEAN-ACT) continues Australia's long running collaboration with ASEAN and its member states to end trafficking in persons in our region. The program is a ten-year investment principally working with strengthening the justice sector response to trafficking in persons, while opening up new partnerships with allied government agencies, civil society and business. It engages all 10 ASEAN Member States in some capacity and has national-level programming in Cambodia, Indonesia (establishing), Lao PDR, Myanmar (currently on hold), the Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam.

Program Outcomes

The overarching goal that ASEAN-ACT contributes to is that ASEAN member states have effective justice systems that provide just punishment of traffickers and protect the rights of victims. Three end-of-program outcomes (EOPOs) together contribute to the achievement of this goal by 2028:

- > EOPO1: ASEAN's planning, monitoring and reporting of ASEAN Convention on Trafficking in Person, Especially Women and Children (ACTIP) implementation is increasingly effective and advances the protection of victim rights.
- > EOPO2: ASEAN member state justice and related state agencies are increasingly capable of implementing their ACTIP obligations, in particular those that uphold victim rights.
- > EOPO3: ASEAN member state justice and related state agencies' policies and practices are influenced by relevant stakeholders and better aligned with the ACTIP, especially in connection to victim rights obligations.

Background

ASEAN-ACT conducts research and analysis that supports ASEAN partners in counter-trafficking in persons responses, with a focus on advancing the rights of trafficked victims.

The program also responds to areas of interest that are raised in international and regional reports. The media and influence of social media have been flagged recently in the US TIP Report 2021 and the 2020 UNODC Global Report on Trafficking in Persons as enduring misconceptions about human trafficking through misinformation and misleading claims. This content often becomes viral on mainstream social media platforms, taking advantage of well-intentioned members of the public.

"More concerning, this spread of misinformation has real and detrimental impacts on the ability of the anti-trafficking community to protect those who have or are currently experiencing human trafficking and to bring traffickers to justice.", p34, 2021 US Trafficking in Persons Report.

Child protection

Cardno is committed to child protection and safeguarding the welfare of children in the delivery of our International Development programs. Recruitment and selection procedures reflect this commitment and will include relevant criminal record checks.

Cardno is an equal opportunity employer

Cardno encourages women to apply. Cardno recognises the moral and legal responsibility to provide an equal opportunity workplace by ensuring that all recruitment and selection decisions are based on the best qualified and experienced candidate who can perform the genuine inherent requirements of the position.

Cardno is committed to Safety and the Prevention of Sexual Abuse and Harassment (PSEAH), Child Protection and bribery prevention.

We want to engage with the right people to deliver our client programs. As part of our approach you will be subjected to formal background screening, criminal record checks, employment verification, and periodic compliance checks. All Cardno staff receive safety, compliance and safeguards training and are responsible for contributing to a safer working culture.

To support the design and implementation of counter-trafficking in persons responses, it is critical to understand the role and influence of the media, including social media to support ASEAN Member States to:

- promote national and regional efforts and initiatives to combat human trafficking
- effectively engage in policy dialogue and reform
- effectively implement solutions to ACTIP implementation challenges
- influence the behaviour and practice of counter-trafficking actors
- advance the rights of trafficked victims, including their treatment, through enhanced media reporting
- garner public and private support for national and regional initiatives.

Research Objective

The main objective of this consultancy is to research and analyse the role and influence of media, including social media, in combatting human trafficking across seven ASEAN Member States – Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam.

The following sub-objectives of this consultancy:

- > To identify issues and challenges of the role of media in counter-trafficking, for example media law and regulations
- > To identify good practices in reporting trafficking in persons
- > To investigate how the media influences the way justice actors perceive potential victims, which in turn influences how they identify and treat them
- > To draw on any examples of how media has positively or negatively pressured justice responses, and influenced justice outcomes
- > To explore opportunities for government and non-government organisation to use the media for advocacy and reform
- > To provide lessons learned and recommendations on counter-trafficking in persons information campaigns

Areas of Responsibility

The consultant will work under the supervision of the ASEAN-ACT Communications Director, with the following key responsibilities:

This study will focus on national-level case studies and may draw on relevant regional case studies. It will involve desktop research, analysis of secondary sources, and may include direct engagement with the media, ASEAN-ACT partners including ASEAN sectoral bodies and organisations.

The Media Study Consultant will:

- > Develop a workplan and study methodology and report outline/content in consultation with ASEAN-ACT
- > Conduct initial design phase meeting involving different TIP and media expertise
- > Conduct meetings, interviews, desk study, research secondary sources, and collate information
- > Analyse, synthesise, and summarise information collected
- > Draw on national-level case studies
- > Write a research report for ASEAN-ACT in accordance with agreed outline/content, with recommendations for the program's consideration

Key Stakeholders

The key stakeholders for this consultancy are:

- > Government and non-government counter-trafficking actors, including policymakers, practitioners, and justice sector agencies
- > Media agencies and non-profit media organisations
- > Universities and research institutes
- > International development organisations
- > ASEAN-ACT and the program donor, DFAT

Expected Outputs

The Consultant - Media Study is expected to deliver the following outputs:

- > Inception report outlining the consultancy plan, with approach/methodology and timeframe of the consultancy.
- > Draft study report
- > Final study report
- > A consultancy completion report

ASEAN-ACT will provide the following assistance to the consultant:

- > Provide relevant materials and related documents needed for literature review
- > Provide support in arranging meetings, interviews or workshops
- > Liaise with ASEAN sectoral bodies and organisations, including the identification of key stakeholders
- > Arrange translation services
- > Provide logistic and administrative support

Selection Criteria

Technical:

- > Demonstrated understanding and experience in applied research in a development context
- > Evidence-based reporting with ability to present clear and compelling information
- > Excellent understanding of trafficking in persons, labour migration and social issues within the ASEAN region
- > Understanding of the media in the ASEAN region

Planning and coordination:

- > Demonstrated strong planning and coordination skills, and ability to coordinate with a diverse group of professionals

Communication:

- > Strong analytical, verbal and reporting writing skills in English
- > Demonstrated ability to work effectively with others, including strong experience in cross-cultural and international settings
- > Fluency and demonstrated competency in another ASEAN language will be highly regarded

Qualifications and other experience:

- > Postgraduate or advance qualifications in a field relevant to journalism, research, international studies, law, or trafficking.

How to Apply

Interested applicant must submit:

- (a) A letter of interest, with not more than 5 pages outlining proposed approach to the consultancy and brief response to the selection criteria
- (b) A recent curriculum vitae.

Applicants should clearly indicate 'Media Study Consultant' in your e-mail title and submit to recruitment@aseanact.org

All applications will be treated with the strictest confidence

Due to the expected volume of applications, only candidates under positive consideration will be notified.

Other Information

Amendments to the position's Terms of Reference may be made during the period of the engagement as required.