Description of Services

Call for application

for

Senior Consultant Climate Change and Conflict MENA for research, coordination and advice to the project “Developing a Regional Mechanism for Dialogue and Cooperation in the MENA region”

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**Position title:** Senior Consultant Climate Change and Conflict MENA  
**Position location:** remote; with travel to the MENA region  
**Position duration:** as soon as possible until 31. December 2021  
**Deadline for application:** 22. August 2021  
**Application submission to:** Nora Rathje, n.rathje@berghof-foundation.org

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1. Background

The Berghof Foundation is a German independent, non-governmental and non-profit organisation supporting conflict stakeholders in their efforts to achieve sustainable peace through peacebuilding and conflict transformation. The Berghof Foundation has been working in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) since 2008. Since the beginning of this year, the Berghof Foundation in partnership with the Institute for Islamic Strategic Affairs (IISA) is working with stakeholders across the region to support their efforts in “Developing a Regional Mechanism for Dialogue and Cooperation in the MENA region”. Building on years of dialogue work and established networks in the region, the project seeks to support track II dialogues to further develop the concept of a regional mechanism, explore practical areas of regional cooperation and broaden the support network of regional and international partners. In the framework this project, the Berghof Foundation seeks to explore approaches and readiness to support a more structured regional dialogue on the social and political consequences of climate change from the angle of conflict transformation and prevention. Due to the transboundary effects of climate change on conflict drivers and social and human security, a state-by-state approach to climate and security risks appears insufficient. A regional discussion on climate security risks and options to address these further provides entry points for more comprehensive regional conflict prevention and response mechanisms to climate change related conflict dynamics.
2. Description of services

The consultancy offer includes the following work packages:

1. Scoping study on addressing the climate-conflict nexus from a regional angle

Building on an existing internal mappings and preparations, a comprehensive study will be prepared to provide an overview of the thematic focus, approaches and status of existing region-wide initiatives (intergovernmental, track II and civil society) on the climate-conflict nexus. It furthermore explores gaps, needs and entry points for regional dialogues on the climate-conflict nexus in the MENA region.

The study relies methodologically on desk research combined with consultations and interviews (online) conducted jointly with the Project Manager.

Proposed length: 15-20 pages

Interviews and research: up to 6 days

Writing: up to 4 days

2. Short summary of key recommendations: Entry points for an inclusive track II dialogue on the climate – conflict nexus

Further building on the scoping study, this proposed second paper provides recommendations for possible entry points for a region-wide dialogue on preventing and mitigating climate-related security and conflict risks in the MENA region. The paper will be presented in a first workshop with regional stakeholders.

Proposed length: 5-8 pages

Writing: up to 3 days

3. Preparing and facilitating a regional workshop on the climate – conflict nexus

The Senior Consultant will conceptually prepare a two-day workshop on the climate – conflict nexus, which engages track II stakeholders across the region. The workshop should provide space to discuss regional perspectives on the conflict-climate nexus and options for regional cooperation on the matter. Part of this work package is to write a concept and agenda for the meeting. The Senior Advisor will further identify and contact participants from across the region, who are in a position to understand their respective government’s positions and interests on the topic and can create linkage to track. The Senior Advisor will facilitate the workshop and present his recommendation paper.

Workshop preparation and facilitation: up to 8 days

4. Short paper: Ideas for future steps

Based on the previous studies and the outcomes of workshop, the Senior Advisor will draft a short paper outlining a possible way forward for engagement on the climate-conflict nexus in the region. The paper will summarize ideas for possible thematic areas, approaches and formats.
5. Networking and coordination

The Senior Consultant will coordinate closely with the project team on all four work packages. The Senior Consultant will further be available to travel to the region for identifying and consulting key stakeholders and widening respective networks for future engagement.

Networking, travel and coordination: up to 20 days

3. Qualifications

Required qualifications:

- Professional experience in the field of conflict transformation, environmental peacebuilding or climate security work in the Middle East of **10 years** is **mandatory**
- Existing networks across the Middle East and Gulf Region in above mentioned fields
- Track record of professional involvement in the dialogue/mediation field on track 1 or 2 level
- Strong research and writing skills in English

Desirable qualifications:

- Verbal and written language skills in Arabic

4. Application Process

The applicant is asked to share the CV and share a detailed offer, i.e. a breakdown of anticipated costs per work package. When reviewing the offer, value for money will be part of the selection choice. If the applicant already has other commitments planned, it is required to clearly outline availability during the period until end of December 2021.

Please note that only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

We are looking forward to your application!